

# VOA NEWS

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This is VOA news. Via remote, I'm Marissa Melton.

U.S. President Donald Trump visited a section of border wall in Yuma, Arizona, today. Trump autographed a new section of the wall and credited it for stopping both illegal immigration and the coronavirus.

He said, "Our border has never been more secure." He added "This is the most powerful and comprehensive border wall structure anywhere in the world."

Mr. Trump said the wall plus emergency responders, in his words, "prevented a coronavirus catastrophe on the southern border, shutting down human smuggling and swiftly returning the crossers."

"Without these public health measures," he said, "the southern border would be a global epicenter of the viral transmission."

Arizona is among several hotspots in the country for the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ahead of Trump's visit, the Arizona department of health on Tuesday reported nearly 3,600 new coronavirus cases. Overall, the state has more than 54,000 confirmed coronavirus cases and has recorded more than 1,300 deaths. That's according to Johns Hopkins University research.

Before he left for Arizona, President Trump voiced new concerns about the country conducting too many tests for coronavirus.

He said [in] on Twitter "Cases are going up in the U.S. because we are testing far more than any other country, and ever expanding." He continued "With smaller testing we would show fewer cases!"

The U.S. is leading the world with 2.3 million confirmed coronavirus cases and more than 120,000 deaths.

American health experts have often said one key to controlling the outbreak is to test as many people as possible and if they are infected with COVID-19, they too trace others they may have come in contact with.

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