

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 8.17.2020

[Sen. Richard Durbin, Trump's Assault on Postal Service, \*Chicago Sun-Times\*, 8.12.20.](#)

1. Name a needed item that Durbin's constituents typically receive in the mail, but did not receive lately.
2. What does senator Durbin point to that has caused a slow down or errors in mail delivery?
3. What does he say Congress should do to enhance mail-in voting in the upcoming election?
4. How does federalism play into this issue?
5. What is Durbin's strategy or goal with this article? Will it work? Why or why not?

[Rainy & King, COVID-19 Has Already Defunded Police, \*Politico\*, 8.15.20.](#)

1. Name a locality that has experienced cuts in police funding and by how much.
2. What vivid scenario did AFL-CIO president Richard Trumfka offer to warn about the potential dangers of the cuts?
3. When funds were re-directed from police departments, where did they go?
4. When law enforcement funding is cut, what programs or employees are usually cut?
5. What impact do those cuts have?

[Nate Silver, Introducing the 2020 Election, \*FiveThirtyEight.Com\*, 8.15.20 \(Video\).](#)

1. Which presidential candidate has the advantage right now in the Five Thirty Eight 2020 forecast?
2. What example does Silver offer to prove that polls can change?
3. What "tipping-point states" does he emphasize will be major determiners in this election?
4. What variable does he offer that might make this election prediction even harder than normal?