



Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

May 20, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

- [Jindal School Professor Does His Part to Flatten the Curve With His 3D Printer \(Inside Naveen Jindal School of Management\)](#)
Member: Bin Hu
- [This is what happens when you swim during the COVID-19 pandemic \(Ladders\)](#)
Member: Julie Swann
- [So you really want to see your friends? Here's how to assess the risk \(Pacific\)](#)
Member: Julie Swann
- [Temperature checks for airplane passengers: A bad idea \(NY Daily News\)](#)
Member: Sheldon Jacobson

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- The CDC issued a comprehensive 60-page [report](#) summarizing the federal government's response to the pandemic – entitled “CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President’s Plan for Opening America Up Again.”
- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) published a Dear Colleague [press release](#), formally authorizing the 45-day period during which House lawmakers can vote remotely – thereby codifying a “covered period” in accordance with rules changes adopted by the House last week.
- President Trump [tweeted](#) this morning that the administration is “considering rescheduling the G-7 [summit] on the same or similar date” to be held at Camp David. For reference, when COVID-19 was established as a pandemic in March this year, President Trump announced that the summit would be held via videoconference in June.
- Vice President Mike Pence announced that the administration is “considering additional travel restrictions” from South America – particularly in Brazil.

Global Response

- Despite easing some restrictions, the Spanish government announced that everyone over 6 years old is required to wear masks in public areas. The Spanish Health Ministry stated that they would disburse 9.6 million masks throughout the country.
- The Greek government announced that the country would open back up to tourists on June 15th, after which they would gradually permit international flights beginning July 1st.
- New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern suggested that companies in the country should introduce flexibility mechanisms to their work models, ranging from remote work options to four-day work models and more.

State Update

- As of today, all 50 states are engaged in some phase of reopening.
- The White House published a [memorandum](#) in support of offering Utah with maximum National Guard support as they respond to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Texas Governor Greg Abbott sent a [letter](#) to state agency heads requesting that they slash their budgets by 5% in order to appropriately combat the economic impacts of the pandemic. He wrote in the letter that “to prepare for this economic shock, [they] must take action today to ensure that the state can continue providing the essential government services that Texans expect.”
- Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds announced that movie theaters and other public attraction venues will reopen on Friday, in the next phase of the state’s reopening.
- Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy announced that on Friday, they’d be “open for business across the state.”
- After beginning phase one of their reopening process today, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont announced today that phase two of the reopening is currently scheduled for June 20th.
- California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that thirty of the state’s 58 counties have now been allowed to move into the second phase of reopening in the state – with retail businesses opening for curbside pickup, shopping malls reopening, and manufacturing facilities reopening.
- Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear announced that the state would be disbursing \$300 million of CARES Act funding to city and county governments through the state’s Department for Local Government.
- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker announced that restaurants will be permitted to resume operations for outdoor seating on May 29th.
- The Missouri School Board Association released a [draft](#) of its plan to reopen schools in the state.
- South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster announced that popular attractions (zoos, museums, amusement parks, etc.) would be permitted to reopen starting this Friday.
- Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries are reimplementing strict restrictions after a spike in coronavirus cases during Ramadan. These more restrictive measures include 24-hour nationwide curfews, more social distancing protocols, and more.

Economic Update (as of close of the markets)

- U.S. stocks rebounded today, with all three indices reporting gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 1.5 %, the Nasdaq Composite by 2.1%, and the S&P 500 by 1.7%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 1,589,869 cases and 94,833 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 5,077,173 million cases and 329,063 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Lawmakers begin efforts to rework Paycheck Protection Program so businesses can have more flexibility \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [All 50 States Have Now Taken Steps to Ease Restrictions \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Wall Street climbs on stimulus hopes, as S&P, Nasdaq hit multi-month highs \(Reuters\)](#)
- [Scientists See Progress in Race to Develop a Vaccine \(New York Times\)](#)
- [Reopening tension pits state, local officials against each other in sign of what's to come \(Politico\)](#)

Signal Insights: [A Shift in Agenda – A Dozen Policy Sectors to Watch Post-Coronavirus](#)
by Charles Cooper

Please visit the following Signal webpage for more resources and updates on the coronavirus pandemic: <https://covid.signaldc.com/>.