



Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

June 18, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

- [Did You Wash Your Hands? \(NPR\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [Big Red data: crunching numbers to fight COVID-19 and more \(Cornell Chronicle\)](#)
Member: David Shmoys
- [Tips on how to have a safe summer barbecue amid coronavirus \(AJC\)](#)
Member: Julie Swann
- [In-person election, protests, bars opening. None appear to have spiked COVID cases. Experts hope public precautions keep spread in check \(Milwaukee Journal Sentinel\)](#)
Member: Oguzhan Alagoz

Signal Group is launching a newsletter, **COVID-19 Trend Report on Telehealth and Medtech**, to track how changes in the telehealth and medical technology industries are adapting to the coronavirus. Visit signaldc.com/COVIDnews to sign up to stay up-to-date on these developing transformations in the industry.

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- The Labor Department released their [new weekly data](#) indicating that there were 1.5 million new unemployment applications filed last week.
- President Trump announced in a telephone interview late yesterday night that they “won’t be closing the country again.”
- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued [updated guidance](#) finding that employers cannot mandate that their employees take antibody tests before returning to the workplace.

Global Response

- The Chilean government announced that they would reinstate some coronavirus restrictions, due to a resurgence of cases. These measures include mandates that citizens can only leave their homes twice a week.
- Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez unveiled a \$4.77 billion stimulus package intended “to reactivate and to stimulate the tourism sector.”
- British Health Secretary Matt Hancock announced that as the government examines where to prioritize distribution of a future coronavirus vaccine, they are planning to “take into account which groups may be particularly vulnerable, including those from ethnic minority backgrounds.”

- Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that the country would begin the testing process for a “completely voluntary” mobile application that will contact trace coronavirus cases and notify Canadians if they have been exposed to someone who has tested positive.

State Update

- The California, Florida, and Arizona state health departments announced that they had reached record highs for new, known coronavirus infections in a single day.
- Washington, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser confirmed that the city’s progression to phase two of reopening would permit restaurants and retail stores to reopen at 50% capacity, along with other social gathering places.
- Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson announced that he would be extending the state’s public health emergency status for another 45 days.
- California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an order mandating that the state’s residents will be required to wear face coverings in “most settings outside the homes.”
- Oregon Governor Kate Brown announced that wearing masks would be mandatory in seven counties in the Portland region.
- Arizona Governor Doug Ducey announced that local officials have the authority to implement their own rules for compulsory facial coverings on a county-by-county basis.
- Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced that public school students will return to classrooms for in-person instruction in the fall.
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced in his press conference today that he is considering implementing a quarantine orders for travelers from Florida.
- Miami Mayor Francis Suarez announced that he is “extremely concerned” about the recent uptick of infections in the city, stating that they are “going to do everything [they] can to keep Miami from becoming an epicenter.”

Economic Update (as of close of the markets)

- U.S. stocks were volatile today, as the three indices closed with mixed results. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 0.15%, while the S&P 500 rose by 0.06% and the Nasdaq Composite by 0.33%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 2,261,743 cases and 120,622 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 8,565,665 million cases and 455,488 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [‘It’s going to be a slow slog’: Economists knock down hopes of quick rebound \(Politico\)](#)
- [Mask-wearing becomes political even as some governors ease resistance \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Fauci: ‘We are still in the first wave’ of coronavirus \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [U.S. Unemployment Claims Edge Lower but Remain Historically High \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Watchdogs, White House at odds over scrutiny of pandemic aid \(Reuters\)](#)