

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

November 17th, 2020

INFORMS Members In The News

- ['I see something terrible happening now': Exponential COVID-19 growth worries experts \(FOX 47\)](#)
INFORMS Member: Oguzhan Alagoz
- [Moderna, Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines are temperature sensitive. Chicago's cold storage facilities face major challenges. \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)
INFORMS Member: Tinglong Dai
- [Colin Murray \(BBC\)](#)
INFORMS Member: Anna Nagurney

Federal Policy Update

- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) sent a [letter](#) to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), urging that they restart negotiations for a coronavirus relief package. The Democratic leaders write in the letter that that Republicans should join them “at the negotiating table this week so that [they] can work towards a bipartisan, bicameral COVID-19 relief agreement to crush the virus and save American lives.”
- The Government Accountability Office published a [report](#) calling for the Food & Drug Administration to be more clear and consistent when granting emergency use authorizations for COVID-19 treatments and vaccines. The report also warned the public that shortages and bottlenecks in production could slow efforts to distribute the vaccine.
- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell warned that there is a “long way to go” before the U.S. economy recovers completely.
- Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) has tested positive for coronavirus.

State Response

- Maryland Governor Larry Hogan (R) announced that effective this Friday at 5 PM, all bars and restaurants would be required to close their indoor operations by 10 PM every night. The state would also reduce the capacity permitted at retail stores to 50%.
- Ohio Governor Mike DeWine (R) announced that the state would implement a 21-day curfew across the state, effective from 10 PM – 5 AM today.
- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker (D) announced that the state would impose a series of new restrictions across the state, which will go into effect on Friday. Under the new order, bars and restaurants will not offer indoor services, casinos and museums will close, and gyms will stop all indoor classes.
- The Pennsylvania state government is now requiring that all travelers entering the state provide a negative COVID test within 72 hours prior to arrival, or they must quarantine for 14 days upon entry.

- Tennessee Health Commissioner Lisa Piercelly announced that the state would ramp up their testing efforts and the turnaround times for results, with the hope that residents will receive test results in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Sheriffs from Erie, Fulton, Saratoga, and Washington counties in New York have announced that they will not enforce New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's (D) restrictions on indoor gatherings for Thanksgiving.
- Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego (D) requested that Arizona Governor Doug Ducey (R) issue a statewide mask mandate.
- The city of New Orleans announced that there would not be any Mardi Gras parades in 2021.

Global Response

- France has officially become the first European country to report over 2 million coronavirus cases.
- The Netherlands is extending their closure on bars and restaurants, but is allowing libraries, theaters, and museums to reopen.
- Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon announced that they would mandate that all non-essential businesses close for the next three weeks in Glasgow and Stirling.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were on the decline today, with all three indices closing with losses. The Nasdaq Composite fell by 0.21%, the S&P 500 by 0.48%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.56%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 11,678,843 cases and 254,068 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 55,912,247 cases and 1,342,591 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Pelosi and Schumer ask McConnell to restart coronavirus stimulus talks as cases surge \(CNBC\)](#)
- [Pfizer CEO says no concerns about distribution of vaccine \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Biden pressures Trump on coronavirus: 'More people may die if we don't coordinate' \(Politico\)](#)
- [Moderna and Pfizer Are Reinventing Vaccines, Starting With COVID \(The Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Grassley tests positive for COVID-19 after missing first roll call in 27 years \(Roll Call\)](#)