

## Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

*June 26, 2020*

### INFORMS Members in the News

- [Stop Wearing Face Masks Incorrectly \(The Hill\)](#)  
Member: Sheldon Jacobson

### U.S. Federal Policy Update

- President Trump issued an [executive order](#) this afternoon, which seeks to “reform and modernize the federal hiring process. Upon announcing the executive order, President Trump stated that this action was a “pivotal action to jumpstart the economy and help Americans return to the workforce as [the U.S.] recovers from the economic effects of the coronavirus.”
- The Labor Department issued [guidance](#) on “paid sick and expanded family and medical leave amid school and camp closures.”
- During this afternoon’s White House Coronavirus Task Force briefing, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci issued “a plea” to Americans that they can “either be a part of the solution or part of the problem,” emphasizing that they have “a societal responsibility to isolate.”
- Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross stated that while there have been “some little interruptions as [states] come back out of the pandemic,” the “key thing is that consumer spending will continue to lead [economic] recovery.”
- Defense Department Chief Management Officer Lisa Hershman officially approved the department’s transition to “[Phase Two of the Pentagon Reservation Resilience Plan](#).”
- National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield will appear before the House Appropriations Committee next Thursday.
- The Government Accountability Office’s [new report](#) found that the Treasury Department sent stimulus checks to 1.1 million deceased people – totaling almost \$1.4 billion.

### Global Response

- The European Union is reportedly circulating a draft list of countries from which the bloc’s members should allow travelers to enter their borders, with plans to publish the decisions on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The list would allow travelers from Canada, Japan, South Korea, and others to enter. However, the U.S. is missing from the list – meaning that Americans could potentially be blocked from entering Europe in July.
- Argentinian President Alberto Fernández announced that they would reimpose lockdown measures on the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires, stating that “cases have grown exponentially” recently.
- The Portuguese government announced that it would be reimplementing lockdowns for the city of Lisbon, which will go into effect on Wednesday.

## State Update

- At least 11 governors in the U.S. have announced that they're pausing their reopening process: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Texas.
- South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster announced that he would not lift any additional restrictions on public spaces until COVID-19 cases in the state "are under control."
- Utah Governor Gary Herbert announced that he has officially given the go-ahead for two counties in the state to mandate face coverings.
- Due to a "very concerning" uptick in coronavirus cases, New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham announced that the state would pause before entering the next phase of their reopening process. Governor Lujan Grisham cautioned citizens "to be even more careful," stating that they're "not doing as good a job keeping the virus in check."
- Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced that the state would implement several stricter restrictions due to the spike of COVID-19 cases – signing an executive order that closes bars and scales restaurant capacity back from 75% to 50%.
- Florida's Business & Professional Regulation Department Secretary Halsey Beshears announced that bars in the state must shut down alcohol consumption on-site – effective immediately.

## Economic Update

- U.S. stocks fell dramatically today, with all three indices reporting overall losses. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 2.84%, the S&P 500 by 2.42%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 2.59%.

## Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 2,546,841 cases and 127,361 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 9,877,547 and 495,430 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

## In the News

- [States plead for help while White House touts success in curbing virus \(Politico\)](#)
- [A quick reopening, a surge in infections, and a U.S. recovery at risk \(Reuters\)](#)
- [U.S. Stocks Skid as Infections Rise, Some States Introduce New Restrictions to Curtail Coronavirus Spread \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [White House says cutting COVID-19 spread a matter of patriotism \(Roll Call\)](#)
- [Fauci warns latest outbreaks could spread widely \(The Hill\)](#)