

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

December 9th, 2020

INFORMS Members In The News

- [Op-ed: Can NCAA basketball play through the pandemic? Here's what the data says \(Indy Star\)](#)
Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- [Shipping networks prep for COVID-19 vaccine distribution \(Roll Call\)](#)
Member: Julie Swann

Federal Policy Update

- The bipartisan group of lawmakers proposing the \$908 billion coronavirus relief package released [additional details](#) on the measure, which includes: \$300 weekly unemployment benefits for the next four months, \$300 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program, \$25 billion in rental assistance, \$82 billion for education providers, and \$10 billion for child care support. However, the policymakers still have to finalize the provisions on liability protections, as well as state and local funding.
- The Department of Defense [published](#) its official COVID-19 Distribution Plan, detailing the various phases of vaccine dissemination. The DoD is anticipating to receive approximately 44,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine by early next week.
- The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention [announced](#) that its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will be meeting on December 11th from 12-5pm EST and December 13th from 12-4pm EST to discuss COVID-19 vaccine candidates.
- Operation Warp Speed announced earlier today that they have approved supply shipments of the Pfizer vaccine that is anticipated to be approved by the FDA later this week.
- Health & Human Services Secretary Alex Azar announced that the agency has distributed over 278,000 courses of the two antibody treatments from Eli Lilly and Regeneron to medical facilities.
- National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci urged that the U.S. has a "moral responsibility as a rich country" to "make sure that there is the equitable distribution of vaccines and countermeasures throughout the world."

State Update

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency granted an additional \$2.5 million to [Colorado](#), in order to further support the state's COVID-19 response.
- Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves (R) signed an executive order this evening, limiting indoor crowds to no more than 10 people and outdoor crowds to no more than 50 people. The order also mandates that facial coverings be worn in schools across the state, and that 61 of the state's 82 counties are under a mandatory mask mandate.
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) announced that the state would approach their COVID-19 strategy with a three-step plan focused on: 1) education, 2) equal distribution, and 3) speed of distribution.
- Alabama Governor Kay Ivey (R) announced that they would extend the state's safer-at-home order for an additional six weeks – until January 22nd. This order includes a statewide mask mandate.
- The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services sent an emergency alert text message to all residents of California – stating that “there's a new public health stay-at-home order in your area, with COVID-19 spreading rapidly.”
- Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf (D) announced that he has tested positive for COVID-19.

Global Response

- Canada's health agency announced that they have approved an emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, kickstarting a “dry run” distribution to begin this week.
- German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged that citizens must limit their social interactions over the Christmas holiday period, stating that “the number of contacts is too high and the reduction of contacts is not enough.”
- British Chief Medical Officer Chris Whitty announced that the United Kingdom is expecting to have three or four vaccines available by the middle of 2021.
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that he would be the first person to take the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine in the country.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were on the decline today, with all three indices closing with losses. The Nasdaq Composite fell by 1.94%, the S&P 500 by 0.79%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.35%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 15,781,776 cases and 295,855 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 69,161,271 cases and 1,573,600 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Momentum stalls for COVID-19 relief bill \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Bipartisan coalition releases details of \\$908B coronavirus package \(Politico\)](#)
- [As Vaccines Roll Out, States Decide Who Gets Priority \(The Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Wall Street ends lower on stimulus uncertainty \(Reuters\)](#)
- [Canada Approves Vaccine, Shots May Begin Next Week \(The New York Times\)](#)