INFORMS Members in the News

- Column: Schools have the tools to evaluate threat to college sports (The Columbus Dispatch)
  Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- With 5,500 new infections, Florida tops 800,000 coronavirus cases (The Palm Beach Post)
  Member: Julie Swann

Federal Policy Update

- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) stated at a virtual event earlier today that if Democrats reclaim the majority in the Senate in the election, they will “most certainly be passing a reconciliation bill – not only for the Affordable Care Act, but also for what [they] may want to do further on the pandemic and some other [healthcare] issues.”
- The Departments of Defense and Health & Human Services awarded a $119 million contract to Hologic and an up-to-$12.67 million contract to InBios to expand the companies' production capacity of their COVID-19 tests.
- The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention assured that their coronavirus protocols do not prevent anyone from voting in the election. They emphasized that their “recommendations for isolating someone who has Covid-19 or quarantining someone who was in close contact with a person with Covid-19 do not preclude anyone from exercising their right to vote.”
- The National Institutes of Health announced that they would accept public comment on their Strategic Plan for COVID-19 Research, through December 7th.

State Response

- The following states reported record-high hospitalization rates over the weekend: Alaska, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, South Dakota and Utah.

Global Response

- Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced that the country is planning to tighten their coronavirus restrictions, but will not implement a complete lockdown.
- The Portuguese government requested that Prime Minister António Costa declares a state of emergency due to a rise in coronavirus cases.
• Australian Health Minister Greg Hunt announced that Australia has recorded zero new coronavirus cases today for the first time since June 9th.

• The Slovakian government launched its countrywide free-of-charge testing program over the weekend, with over 2.58 million people tested on the first day alone.

• Over the weekend, Israel launched the first phase of clinical trials for its coronavirus vaccine, which will be administered to a total of 80 volunteers.

• World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced that he would enter a self-quarantine after having been exposed to someone who later tested positive for COVID-19.

Economic Update

• U.S. stocks were on the rise today, with all three indices closing with gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 1.60%, the S&P 500 by 1.23%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 0.42%.

Latest Impact Data

• In the United States: Over 9,549,011 cases and 236,893 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.

• Worldwide: Over 47,272,539 cases and 1,210,225 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

• The pandemic surge in charts (Politico)

• An economic stimulus bill is unlikely during a lame duck session until 2021 (Vox)

• As U.S. COVID-19 cases break records, weekly deaths rise 3% (Reuters)

• Europe Weighs New Idea on Who Should Get Tested: Everybody (The Wall Street Journal)

• On The Trail: A campaign defined by a pandemic (The Hill)