

## Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

### INFORMS Members in the News

- [The not-so-grand reopening of retail \(Retail Dive\)](#)  
Member: Julie Swann
- [Football this fall? U of I professor weighs in \(WCIA\)](#)  
Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- [The Benefits of Telemedicine as a Form of Continuity of Care \(Cox\)](#)  
Member: Vishal Ahuja

### U.S. Federal Policy Update

- President Trump stated during a White House briefing that “work has started” with Congress on the next phase of a coronavirus relief package. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin added that they’re “seriously considering whether [they] need to put more stimulus checks” in the package.
- Assistant Health Secretary Brett Giroir announced that the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile will reach a total of over 50,000 ventilators by next week.
- The Labor Department released [weekly data](#) showing that 1.4 million Americans filed for first-time unemployment benefits last week – marking the 15<sup>th</sup> consecutive week of nationwide first-time claims exceeding 1 million.
- The White House published [remarks](#) from Vice President Mike Pence in a briefing with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis on COVID-19.
- The U.S. Departments of Homeland Security, Transportation, and Health & Human Services issued [new guidance](#) for the airline industry aimed towards “better protecting passengers, crew, and other airport workers from the COVID-19 pandemic.”
- Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Stephen Hahn announced this morning that they “are on target to reach a vaccine by year’s end or early next year,” stating that they “have a lot of different shots on goal with respect to vaccines.”

### Global Response

- World Health Eastern Mediterranean Regional Director Ahmed al-Mandhari issued a [warning](#) that the region is at a “critical threshold,” as “health systems are overwhelmed, health care workers are exhausted, and a large number of people in the region are still vulnerable.”
- German Chancellor Angela Merkel issued a statement warning that “Europe is facing the most difficult situation in its history,” while calling on European Union member states to reach an agreement on a 750 billion euro recovery fund to help the bloc with their economies amid disruptions caused by the pandemic.

### State Update

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued an [executive order](#) requiring that residents must wear masks in public in any county that has 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases. The order also states that local authorities can restrict gatherings of more than 10 people. Upon announcing

the mandate, Governor Abbott emphasized that “wearing a face covering in public is proven to be one of the most effective ways we have to slow the spread of COVID-19.”

- New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy signed an executive order extending their public health emergency for an additional 30 days.
- Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that the state would be implementing a new public health advisory warning system, which would provide local health departments with information on COVID-19 flare-ups throughout the state.
- The mayors of Columbus, Indianapolis, and other cities around the country have been implementing their own mandates requiring residents to wear masks when in public.

### **Economic Update**

- U.S. stocks ended positively today, with the three indices reporting gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 0.4%, the S&P 500 by 0.5%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 0.5%.

### **Latest Impact Data**

- In the United States: Over 2,830,472 cases and 131,415 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 10,960,555 and 522,985 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

### **In the News**

- [Congress Eyes More Spending as Cases Surge and Economy Struggles \(New York Times\)](#)
- [‘It’s all backwards-looking’: June’s positive jobs data obscures \(Politico\)](#)
- [Coronavirus on the rise in 37 states in the U.S. as Florida reports 10,000 new cases \(Reuters\)](#)
- [Trump administration eyes new strategy on COVID-19 tests \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Stocks Gain on Jobs Report \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)