Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak
July 14th, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

- [With COVID-19, now's no time to rest on our laurels (The News-Gazette)](#)
  Member: Sheldon Jacobson

- [Can Big Data Analytics Help in Projecting Predictive Model to Curb Coronavirus Spread? (IB Times)](#)
  Member: Julie Swann

- [The Supply Chain And COVID-19 (WABE)](#)
  Member: Pinar Keskinocak

- [Filling middle seats on airplanes doubles the risk of catching COVID-19, according to an MIT study (Business Insider)](#)
  Member: Arnold Barnett

- [Leaving Airplane Middle Seats Empty Could Cut Coronavirus Risk Almost In Half, A Study Says (Forbes)](#)
  Member: Arnold Barnett

- [OPINION | Georgia Tech researchers: Colleges too optimistic about social distancing (AJC)](#)
  Member: Lauren Steimle

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) suggested during an [interview](#) that she would be willing to cut into August recess to finalize the next coronavirus package, stating that "the timetable is the timetable of the American people." She also stated that she is more focused on enhanced OSHA worker protections rather than liability protections.

- House Financial Services Committee Chair Maxine Waters (D-CA), Armed Services Committee Chair Adam Smith (D-WA), Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Eliot Engel (D-NY), Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson (D-MS), and Energy & Commerce Committee Chair Frank Pallone (D-NJ) sent a [letter](#) to HHS Secretary Alex Azar and Defense Secretary Mark Esper, seeking information on why the administration has not yet utilized CARES Act funding for the purpose of critical personal protective equipment.

- The White House published a [readout](#) from Vice President Mike Pence's briefing on COVID-19 response and best practices with U.S. governors.

- Yesterday, the House Budget Committee released a [report](#), entitled "Software Update Required: COVID-19 Exposes Need for Federal Investments in Technology." The report asserts that the federal government has been in need of modern technologies for a while now, and the urgent need for these upgrades has only been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield suggested in an interview this morning that they are considering community-based testing strategies for COVID-19. He also cautioned that the U.S. "could be wrestling with this virus" for more years if there isn't a vaccine. However, he added that his "hope is that between now and January, there will be a successful vaccine, so we can put COVID behind us."

- Representative Morgan Griffith (R-VA) released a [statement](#) that he has tested positive for coronavirus.

Global Response

- The American, Mexican, and Canadian governments announced that they have extended the restriction on non-essential traffic across their borders for an additional thirty days after its current expiration date – to be valid until August 21st.

- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Director Dr. Carissa Etienne [announced](#) that PAHO is working with their member states – mainly the U.S., Canada, Brazil, and Argentina – to "participate in a global effort to accelerate the development of vaccines that are safe and effective for everyone."

- German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez issued a joint call that the European Union must reach an agreement on a bloc-wide COVID-19 recovery plan. Prime Minister Sanchez stated that while there will be "a difficult negotiation ahead of us," they will engage in "dialogue on the 17th and 18th of July" – especially since "if [they] delay the agreement, the crisis will worsen."

- French President Emmanuel Macron announced that he "would like to make masks mandatory in all enclosed public spaces," and encouraged for now that "all citizens wear masks as much as possible, outside as well as inside."

- Colombia's most populous cities are reimplementing their lockdown measures – with Bogota and Medellin imposing partial lockdowns and closing all non-essential businesses.

- Venezuelan Vice President Delcy Rodríguez announced that their capital city of Caracas would reenter lockdown effective tomorrow.

State Update

- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that travelers from Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, and Wisconsin have been added to the list of states from which travelers must quarantine for 14 days upon entering New York. The [statement](#) adds that they will commence a "travel enforcement operation at airports across the state to help ensure travelers are following the state's quarantine restrictions and to help contain the rates of COVID-19 transmission in New York State."

- Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced that they will be increasing coronavirus restrictions across the state – most notably, by giving any business the ability to deny service to patrons that do not wear a mask.

- Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves announced that the state's recorded number of COVID-19 hospitalizations was the highest it's ever been, since the first case reported on March 11th.

- New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu unveiled a "dynamic" guidance for schools to reopen in the fall, which includes social distancing protocols and screening procedures for all students, faculty, and visitors.

- North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper announced that they would open the school system for both in-person and remote learning in the fall, with face coverings required for all K-12 students and staff.

- Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney announced that the city will be cancelling all large public events through February 28th, 2021.

- Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett announced that all of the city's residents are now required to wear masks in public spaces – effective today.

- The city of Miami Beach announced that starting Thursday, all short-term and vacation rentals will be banned – due to the city's surge in COVID-19 cases.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were on the rise today, with the three indices closed with positive gains. The Nasdaq Composite rose by 0.94% the S&P 500 by 1.34%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 2.13%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 3,542,407 cases and 139,140 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 13,435,687 and 580,077 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Trump administration recommends the National Guard as an option to help hospitals report coronavirus data (Washington Post)](#)
- [Redfield worried that two respiratory viruses could hit U.S. over stressing the health care system (Politico)](#)
- [Support grows for foreign aid in upcoming COVID-19 emergency bill (Roll Call)](#)
- [Banks Ready for Wave of Coronavirus Defaults (Wall Street Journal)](#)
- [Moderna Phase one results show coronavirus vaccine safe, induces immune response (Reuters)](#)