

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

October 15th, 2020

INFORMS Members In The News

- [PROOF POINTS: The \\$25,000 Zoom rig designed to 'shock and awe' students \(The Hechinger Report\)](#)
Member: Sean Willems
- [Parson campaigns on falling COVID-19 death rate. But more Missourians are dying now \(The Kansas City Star\)](#)
Member: Julie Swann

Federal Policy Update

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) told reporters this afternoon that the Republican-controlled Senate is not on board with the Trump administration's higher-value proposal for a coronavirus relief package. He stated that while this \$1.8 trillion amount is "where the administration is willing to go," Republican members of Congress "think a highly targeted \$500 billion package is the best way to go."
- The Department of Labor released [weekly data](#) finding that 898,000 Americans filed for their first-time unemployment insurance claims last week.
- The Food & Drug Administration [reissued](#) the Emergency Use Authorization for certain filtering face-piece respirators.
- The White House published a [statement](#) on the White House's mental health executive order, highlighting that the executive order "comes at a time when many Americans are facing increased mental health problems and suicidal thoughts due to the COVID-19 prolonged lockdowns."
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [updated](#) their ensemble forecast, now projecting that there will be approximately 240,000 coronavirus deaths by November 7th.

State Response

- Georgia Governor Brian Kemp (R) signed an executive order extending the state's current coronavirus protocols through October 31st, with the public health emergency to continue until November 9th.
- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) stated that he is planning to announce on Sunday whether or not the city will be continuing their restrictions.
- Philadelphia Public School Superintendent William Hite announced that students in pre-kindergarten through 2nd grade can resume classes in-person for two days per week – starting on November 30th.

Global Response

- The World Health Organization released a study which found that the pharmaceutical therapy remdesivir has had "little or no effect on mortality for hospitalized patients."
- French Prime Minister Jean Castex announced that a strict curfew will be implemented in several cities in France, starting on Saturday. The curfew will last from 9 PM to 6 AM, for the

Paris region and the following nine cities: Lyon, Lille, Toulouse, Montpellier, Saint-Etienne, Aix-en-Provence, Marseille, Rouen, and Grenoble.

- The Czech Ministry of Health warned that the country's "prognosis is not good," and "the numbers are very catastrophic."
- United Kingdom Health Secretary Matt Hancock announced that the city of London would move from Tier 1 medium coronavirus alert to a Tier 2 high coronavirus alert.
- The Peruvian government announced that their World Heritage Site – Machu Picchu – will begin to gradually reopen starting this Saturday.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were on the decline today, with all three indices closing with losses. The Nasdaq Composite fell by 0.47%, the S&P 500 by 0.15%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.07%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 8,213,905 cases and 222,688 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 39,145,377 cases and 1,102,299 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Trump wants bigger coronavirus relief package; GOP support tepid \(Roll Call\)](#)
- [Millions of workers face jobless benefits cliff with lifeline set to expire \(Politico\)](#)
- [Biden seeks contrast with Trump after aide tests positive for COVID-19 \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Stocks Fall as Virus Cases Rise, Jobs Data Worsen \(The Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Virus infections rise to record highs in Midwest states \(Reuters\)](#)