



## Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

May 5, 2020

### INFORMS Members in the News

- [To get COVID-19 funding, NC officials must give more data on tests, deaths, recoveries \(The Herald Sun\)](#)  
Member: Julie Swann
- [‘Farmer’s Time to Shine’: Meat Shortages Drive Consumers to Buy Local \(NBC10 Boston\)](#)  
Member: Anna Nagurney
- [Roche snags FDA nod for COVID-19 antibody test \(BioWorld\)](#)  
Member: Julie Swann
- [Prof. Edward Kaplan Brings Operations Research Tools to Local COVID-19 Decision Making \(Yale SOM\)](#)  
Member: Ed Kaplan

### U.S. Federal Policy Update

- Vice President Mike Pence announced that the White House is looking into a timeline for scaling back the operations of the Coronavirus Task Force. Vice President Pence stated that they are “starting to look at the Memorial Day to early June window as a time when [they] could begin to transition back to having agencies begin to manage [the] national response in a more traditional manner.”
- Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senate HELP Committee Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) led a coalition of 40 Senate Democrats in sending a [letter](#) to President Trump, requesting the Trump administration “to develop a comprehensive national strategic plan of action by May 24th to ensure states have sufficient tests to begin safely re-opening.”
- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) stated that he would not rule out any possibilities for a forthcoming coronavirus relief package, but emphasized that “if there is another bill that passes in the Senate, it will include the liability protections.” In response, Minority Leader Schumer stated that “Leader McConnell’s red line is not productive, and it’s not going to work,” since this is “not really related to what the needs of people are.”
- Regarding future response legislation, President Trump [tweeted](#) this afternoon that “the elimination of sanctuary cities, payroll taxes, and perhaps capital gains taxes must be put on the table.”
- Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) released a [statement](#) encouraging congressional leadership to accept the Trump administration’s offer to test members of Congress as they return back to DC.

### Global Response

- Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam stated that they will start easing their social distancing rules.

- The Guatemalan government announced that the country will resume accepting flights from the U.S. with deported migrants, as long as they have been tested for the coronavirus.
- Several of Germany's federal states have begun announcing their plans to allow travel within the country beginning in a few weeks.
- Both Palestine and Lebanon extended their respective state of emergency restrictions for an additional two weeks.

### **State Update**

- California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that "lower-risk workplaces" that offer curbside pickup service can reopen starting on Friday.
- Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced that hair salons, barbershops, tanning saloons, tattoo parlors, and nail salons will be allowed to reopen this Friday. Gyms in the state will be allowed to reopen in accordance with 25% capacity rules beginning May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker announced a five-phase regional plan entitled "Restore Illinois" to reopen the state region-by-region.
- North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper announced that most retail stores will be permitted to reopen this Friday, while adhering to distancing and capacity restrictions. Closer contact industries (i.e. gyms, bars, salons, etc.) will remain closed.
- Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont officially announced that schools in the state will remain shut down for the remainder of the school year. There are only three states – Maryland, Wyoming, and Montana – that have not made an official announcement on remaining closed through the rest of the school year.
- Tennessee Governor Bill Lee announced that "small, recreational" businesses will be allowed to reopen this Friday.

### **Economic Update (as of close of the markets)**

- Stocks were on the rise today, with all three indices closing the day with minor gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 0.6%, the S&P 500 by 0.9%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 1.1%.

### **Latest Impact Data**

- In the United States: Over 1,235,458 cases and 72,149 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 3,720,932 million cases and 257,853 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

### **In the News**

- [Trump's demand for payroll tax cut is rebuffed on Capitol Hill as lawmakers spar over next virus aid bill \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [White House plots breakup of coronavirus task force \(Politico\)](#)
- [Stocks Rise as Lockdowns Ease \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Republicans seek tax cuts in next coronavirus bill; senator warns Congress may spread virus \(Reuters\)](#)