

## Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

*April 28, 2020*

### INFORMS Members In The News

- [As fewer people fly, rate of guns found in bags by TSA jumps \(Associated Press\)](#)  
Member: Sheldon Jacobson (Picked up by Federal News Network)
- [As America stays home, deliveries have struggled to keep up. Chicago could be key to fixing the problem. \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)  
Member: Tinglong Dai (Picked up by Herald & Review)
- [Can the West Actually Ditch China? \(The Atlantic\)](#)  
Members: David Simchi-Levi
- [6 coronavirus insights from MIT Sloan Management Review \(MIT Sloan School\)](#)  
Member: David Simchi-Levi
- [Widespread coronavirus testing has stiff challenges of its own \(The Daily Record\)](#)  
Member: Tinglong Dai
- [We Need a Stress Test for Critical Supply Chains \(Harvard Business Review\)](#)  
Member: David Simchi-Levi

### U.S. Federal Policy Update

- President Trump announced that he plans to sign an executive order that will address food supply chain issues – specifically to use the Defense Production Act to keep meat processing plants open during the coronavirus pandemic.
- House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) [announced](#) that the House will actually not return to session in Washington, DC next Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> as scheduled. Majority Leader Hoyer said that the decision was made after consulting with Speaker Pelosi and the House's Attending Physician, but members "will return once the CARES 2 package is ready."
- The White House issued an [update](#) on telehealth practices from the Council of Economic Advisers entitled "Deregulation Sparks Dramatic Telehealth Increase During the COVID-19 Response."
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) released a [joint interim guidance](#) specifically for the meat processing and packing industries. The guidance details how workers should be kept safe as they continue working due to their facilities being classified as critical infrastructure.
- White House Coronavirus Task Force Coordinator Deborah Birx detailed that the task force is closely monitoring the situation in both the northern and southern hemispheres – stating that "it will be very interesting to watch Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Chile, and Argentina to see what happens with the virus in the summertime," and that "will really define how [the U.S.] does in the fall."

### Global Response

- The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development released a new [update](#) on their COVID-19 diagnostic testing study per country.
- Argentina's National Civil Aviation Administration announced that all commercial flights into and out of the country will be banned until September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- French Prime Minister Édouard Philippe unveiled a deconfinement plan this afternoon, with the government's restrictions set to be relaxed starting on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that the country's lockdown would be extended until May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez announced a "transition plan to a new normal," which will take place in four stages – with distancing measures scheduled to begin relaxing tentatively on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Hong Kong Leader Carrie Lam announced that libraries, museums, and outdoor recreation areas will be reopened starting on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and government employees would also return on that date.
- Turkey President Recep Tayyip Erdogan stated that the country's government is working on a strategy for reopening and easing the restrictions implemented in the country.
- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet released an [announcement](#) that "in some countries, thousands have been detained for curfew violations, a practice that is both unnecessary and unsafe."

### **State Update**

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed an [executive order](#) last night, specifically outlining the phased reopening of the state, which is going to begin on Friday.
- South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem issued a "Back to Normal" [plan](#), which is aimed towards placing the power "in the hands of the people, where it belongs."
- Utah Governor Gary Herbert [announced](#) that the state will be moving towards a "stabilization" stage, and that their restrictions will start being relaxed on Friday. Governor Herbert also stated that free masks will be available for all residents under the "Mask for Every Utahn" [program](#).

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

- U.S. stocks fell today, with all three indices reporting moderate losses. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed the day down by 0.1%, the S&P 500 by 0.5%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 1.4%.

### **Latest Impact Data**

- In the United States: Over 1,033,230 cases and 59,084 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 3,133,314 million cases and 217,568 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

### **In the News**

- [Push to reopen economy runs up against wary workers and consumers \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [Schumer ramps up offensive on lack of GOP oversight of Trump's coronavirus response \(The Hill\)](#)

- [White House 'studying' options for second round of rebate checks \(Roll Call\)](#)
- [House drops plan to return after lawmaker backlash \(Politico\)](#)
- [Even for Companies With Business From Coronavirus, the Picture Is Mixed at Best \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [White House official warns of negative shocks before rebound later in 2020 \(Reuters\)](#)

**CONTACT:**

Jeff Cohen  
INFORMS  
Director of Public Affairs and Marketing  
[jeff.cohen@inform.org](mailto:jeff.cohen@inform.org)

Charles Cooper  
Signal Group  
Managing Director  
[ccooper@signaldc.com](mailto:ccooper@signaldc.com)