

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

September 1st, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

- [One university may have the best COVID testing operation in the U.S.—and tests students twice a week \(Fortune\)](#)

Members: Sheldon Jacobson

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released an [order](#) implementing a “temporary halt in residential evictions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19,” through December 31st. Furthermore, the White House published a [fact sheet](#) on these actions taken by the administration to “stop evictions and protect Americans’ homes during the COVID-19 pandemic.”
- Democrats from the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis released their [preliminary staff report](#) analyzing the dissemination of funds through the Paycheck Protection Program. Upon publication of the report, Chairman Jim Clyburn (D-SC) stated that their analysis indicates that although the “PPP helped millions of small businesses and non-profit organizations to stay afloat during the crisis,” there was “a lack of oversight and accountability from the SBA and Treasury which led to billions of dollars being diverted to fraud, waste, and abuse.”
- The Department of Treasury [published](#) Secretary Mnuchin’s testimony to the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis. Secretary Mnuchin shared an update on the CARES Act’s impact, phase-four coronavirus stimulus negotiations, and data transparency from the Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service.
- The Federal Communications Commission, the Department of Health & Human Services, and the Department of Agriculture stated they will work together on the [Rural Telehealth Initiative](#). The Initiative is a joint effort to collaborate and share information that will help address health disparities and resolve service provider challenges in rural areas, which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and medicine published a [discussion draft](#) of their “preliminary framework to assist policymakers in planning for equitable allocation of a vaccine against COVID-19,” with the overarching suggestion that vaccines should be distributed to individuals with the highest risk of contracting coronavirus.
- Assistant Health & Human Services Secretary Brett Giroir announced that the Trump administration is planning to distribute \$5 rapid coronavirus tests to states beginning mid-September.

- The National Institutes of Health [announced](#) that they are beginning a multi-site Phase 3 clinical trial for the AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine candidate.

State Update

- Oregon Governor Kate Brown (D) officially announced that she would extend the state's state of emergency through November 3rd.
- North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper (D) announced that the state will progress to Phase 2.5 of their reopening process on Friday – with indoor gatherings increased to 25 people and outdoor gatherings to 50 people.
- Maryland Governor Larry Hogan (R) announced that the state would progress to the third phase of its reopening process, with certain outdoor venues set to reopen and retail establishments allowed to increase their capacity from 50% to 75%.
- Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves (R) announced that he is extending the implementation of the state's current coronavirus restrictions through Labor Day weekend.
- California Governor Gavin Newsom (D) signed legislation early this morning to protect residents from eviction threats, stating that the bill entails that “no tenant can be evicted before February 1, 2021 as a result of rent owed due to a COVID-19 related hardship accrued between March 4 – August 31, 2020, if the tenant provides a declaration of hardship according to the legislation's timelines.”
- Florida Governor Ron DeSantis (R) announced that they would allow nursing homes to reopen for visitation on a limited basis.
- Ohio Governor Mike DeWine (R) announced that they would be publishing an order on reporting coronavirus cases in the state's education system – with a goal “to be as open and transparent as possible, so families can be informed if there are classes in school.”
- New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu (R) announced that they are releasing their [COVID-19 Schools Dashboard](#), which is a resource that centralizes information on the status of coronavirus cases in all of the state's schools.
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) announced that the state is adding travelers from Alaska and Montana to their mandatory quarantine list – which requires travelers from certain states to quarantine for 14 days.
- The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announced that they are implementing new guidelines that permit outdoor visits to certain long-term care facilities that meet specific requirements.
- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) announced that the city government is planning to have students return for in-person education on September 21st.
- San Francisco Mayor London Breed (D) announced that hair salons, nail salons, shopping malls, and churches will be permitted to resume their outdoor operations tomorrow. Additionally, outdoor gym facilities will be permitted to reopen as soon as next Wednesday, September 9th.

Global Response

- Schools in France reopened today, with a mandate for all teachers and all students over the age of 11 to wear facial coverings all day.
- The Indian government announced that they would reopen their trains to run for the first time since they were closed due to the pandemic.
- The Colombian government announced that the country's unemployment rate in July was over 20%.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were on the rise today, with the three indices closing the day with increases. The Nasdaq Composite climbed by 1.39%, the S&P 500 by 0.75%, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average by 0.76%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 6,256,445 cases and 188,869 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 25,889,096 and 860,265 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Trump administration issues sweeping eviction ban \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Mnuchin says significant new aid package still needed to help economy recover from coronavirus \(The Washington Post\)](#)
- [Third virus vaccine reaches major hurdle: Final U.S. testing \(Politico\)](#)
- [U.S. to send millions of rapid COVID-19 tests to states to support school reopening, other tasks \(Reuters\)](#)
- [Stocks Finish Higher on Economic Data \(The Wall Street Journal\)](#)