

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

May 4, 2020

INFORMS in the News (4/21/20 – 5/4/20)

- [Commentary: We need custom COVID-19 plans for the four distinct regions of Illinois \(Chicago Tribune\)](#)
Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- [Looking for Light At the End of the Tunnel \(Hamodia\)](#)
Member: Ed Kaplan
- [Study Finds Women In IT More Likely To Be Promoted \(The Realist Woman\)](#)
Member: Nishtha Langer
- [Women in IT More Likely To Be Promoted Than Men, Study Finds \(Rensselaer Policy Institute\)](#)
Member: Nishtha Langer
- [As More Wisconsinites Leave Home, Health Experts Warn Against Ending Social Distancing \(Wisconsin Public Radio\)](#)
Member: Oguzhan Alagoz
- [New York's one-note mayor and other commentary \(New York Post\)](#)
Member: Oguzhan Alagoz
- [No COVID-19 Spike from Wisconsin's In-Person Voting \(Yahoo! News\)](#)
Member: Oguzhan Alagoz
- [Modelling The COVID-19 Virus \(WORT\)](#)
Member: Oguzhan Alagoz
- [COVID-19 Pandemic: Is History Doomed to Repeat Itself? \(Society Risk Analysis\)](#)
Member: Vicki Bier
- [Mass. General Hospital Builds COVID-19 Simulator To Help Predict Impact of Policy Decisions \(WBUR\)](#)
Member: Jagpreet Chhatwal
- [COVID-19 simulator sees a second wave of cases in Georgia based on easing restrictions \(11 Alive\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [New research model predicts second COVID-19 wave in Georgia \(WSB TV 2\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [New research model predicts second COVID-19 wave in Georgia \(WJCL 22\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [Massachusetts hospital releases coronavirus simulator to help aid social distancing, lockdown decisions \(Fox News\)](#)
Member: Jagpreet Chhatwal

- [New research model predicts second COVID-19 wave in Georgia \(MSN\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [Mass. General Hospital released a coronavirus simulator. Here's what it shows for Massachusetts. \(Boston\)](#)
Member: Jagpreet Chhatwal
- [New Model Shows How Deadly Lifting Georgia's Lockdown May Be \(Daily Beast\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [Model Projects 23K GA Deaths If Coronavirus Limits End In 4 Weeks \(Patch\)](#)
Member: Turgay Ayer
- [New online COVID-19 model reveals how modifying social-distancing measures will affect states \(Medical Xpress\)](#)
Member: Jagpreet Chhatwal

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy published an [op-ed](#) entitled "A Plan for the People's House: Four Strategies to Reopen Congress and Restore America's Voice." The four principles are to: 1) modify existing practices, 2) employ a committee-based phased return, 3) deploy useful technologies, and 4) increase risk mitigation practices.
- The Treasury Department [announced](#) that the agency is expecting to borrow approximately \$2.99 trillion in the second quarter, "primarily driven by the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak" – especially with respect to CARES Act programs (such as the Paycheck Protection Program) and the deferral of tax payments until July.
- The Food and Drug Administration [announced](#) that they have revised their policy on antibody tests, issuing new guidelines meant to ensure more accurate and stringently authorized testing.
- The Internal Revenue Service and the Employee Benefits Security Administration published a [notification](#) extending timeframes for certain employee benefit plans affected by the coronavirus pandemic.
- The Federal Aviation Administration issued a [final rule](#) aimed at providing "regulatory relief to persons who have been unable to comply with certain training, recent experience, testing, and checking requirements due to the COVID-19 outbreak."
- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin stated that it remains "too hard to tell at this point" whether all international travel will be able to resume by the end of 2020. He emphasized that the administration's "priority is opening up the domestic economy," adding that "this is a great time for people to explore America."

Global Response

- The European Commission convened a [global pledging conference](#), led by EC President Ursula von der Leyen. The attendees included France, Germany, Japan, Canada, Norway, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia and others. However, the United States was not in attendance.
- The Japanese government officially extended its nationwide state of emergency through the end of the month of May.
- After having been locked down for eight weeks, Italy began to reopen today – with citizens able to recreate outside, work in manufacturing and construction occupations, and order take-out from restaurants.
- Iceland also reopened its country from lockdown.

- The Indian government began lifting some of its restrictions, but their stay-at-home order is scheduled to stay in place for the next two weeks.
- British Defense Secretary Ben Wallace asked for answers from the Chinese government, stating that “China needs to be open and transparent about what it learned and its shortcomings but also its successes.”

State Update

- California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that some businesses in the state would be permitted to reopen this Friday, largely on a county-by-county basis while still adhering to certain protocols.
- Ohio Governor Mike DeWine rescinded his executive order mandating that people wear masks in retail stores.
- Most of Florida's parks, restaurants, and businesses are allowed to reopen as of today. However, Governor Ron DeSantis has specified that this reopening does not apply to Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.
- Kansas Governor Laura Kelly announced that the state began phase one of its reopening today, allowing citizens to go to restaurants as long as they follow social distancing protocols. Governor Kelly said that phase two will likely commence on May 18th.
- Missouri reopened several pieces of their state economy, with the restriction that businesses can reopen as long as citizens are six feet apart from one another.
- Ohio's Department of Family and Job Services announced that employers in the state should report employees that don't return to work as the state's businesses reopen.

Economic Update (as of close of the markets)

- Although U.S. stocks opened lower this morning, all three indices reported finishing the day with minor gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by 0.1%, the S&P 500 by 0.4%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 1.2%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 1,209,703 cases and 69,476 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 3,635,935 million cases and 251,612 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Startling new COVID-19 death projections point to difficult challenges \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Liability Shield Is Next Coronavirus Aid Battle \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Road ahead: Senate returns to new coronavirus normal on Capitol Hill \(Roll Call\)](#)
- [Massive U.S. stock bounce stokes doubts, provokes bears \(Reuters\)](#)
- [Fears rise that Trump will incite a global vaccine brawl \(Politico\)](#)