

Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

October 27th, 2020

INFORMS Members in the News

- [Consumers worry about holiday delivery delays as shopping moves online amid pandemic \(ABC 7\)](#)
Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- [Hospitalisation of Covid patients surges across US \(Financial Times\)](#)
Member: Carri Chan
- [Voting Amid a Global Pandemic: Why Lines May Still be Long at the Polls and How to Counteract it \(Medium\)](#)
Member: Laura Albert
- [COVID-19 vaccine distribution should consider both demand and supply \(The Hill\)](#)
Member: Pinar Keskinocak

Federal Policy Update

- President Donald Trump announced that the White House would focus on a broader coronavirus stimulus package after the election, signaling that the current negotiations are going to halt.
- In response to the above announcement, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) published a [Dear Colleague letter](#) criticizing President Trump's statement and ongoing response to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Health & Human Services Assistant Secretary Brett Giroir stated that while "testing may be identifying some more cases in the United States," it has become "clearly true that what we're seeing is a real increase in the numbers."
- The White House's Office of Science & Technology Policy published a [press release](#) on their accomplishments from President Trump's first term in office – stating that the administration "has taken decisive actions to engage scientists and health professionals in academia, industry, and government to understand, treat, and defeat the disease."
- The Food & Drug Administration published an [update](#) to its Antigen Template for Test Developers, which details the information the FDA recommends developers send to the agency when applying for an EUA request for a COVID-19 antigen test.

State Response

- Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker (R) stated that the state's spike in COVID-19 cases are particularly impacting people over the age of 30, while cases in the age bracket for individuals over 60 has declined.
- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) warned residents of the city that they should ideally "not travel out of state for the holidays," but if they choose to – "do not travel to a state or country with a high infection rate."

Global Response

- World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus cautioned that it is a bad idea to give up control of the spread of coronavirus – stating that “science continues to tell us the truth about this virus, how to contain it, suppress it and stop it from returning and how to save lives among those it reaches.”
- The Portuguese government has published new rules requiring all citizens to wear facial coverings in outdoor spaces.
- French President Emmanuel Macron will reportedly announce new preventive measures to fight against the surge in coronavirus cases in the country.
- Russian Health & Consumer Rights Regulator Rospotrebnadzor announced that the country is implementing a new nationwide mask requirement, effective tomorrow.
- The country of Belgium is in a tough situation with coronavirus cases, estimating that there have been more than 13,000 cases per day over the past week on average.
- Indian Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale has tested positive for COVID-19.

Economic Update

- U.S. stocks were volatile today, with the three indices closing with varying results. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 0.80% and the S&P 500 by 0.30%, while the Nasdaq Composite rose by 0.64%.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 9,026,419 cases and 231,938 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 44,183,974 cases and 1,170,267 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [Trump says stimulus deal will happen after election \(The Hill\)](#)
- [Stocks Close Mixed on Pandemic Worries and Rising COVID-19 Infection Levels \(The Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Almost half a million Americans contract COVID-19 in past week as infections surge \(Reuters\)](#)
- [White House science office takes credit for 'ending' pandemic as infections mount \(Politico\)](#)