



Daily Update on the Coronavirus Outbreak

April 22, 2020

INFORMS Members In The News (3/18/20; 4/20/20 – 4/22/20)

- [Food companies make tough shift to supply grocers as COVID-19 closes restaurants \(S&P Global\)](#)
Member: Tinglong Dai
- [How US supply chains can improve operations post-pandemic \(Focus Technica\)](#)
Member: Tinglong Dai
- [The healthiest countries to live in \(BBC\)](#)
Member: Francis de Véricourt
- [Coronavirus: End of the global supply chain? \(BBC\)](#)
Member: Francis de Véricourt
- [Will smartphones help us keep COVID-19 under control? \(Tech Xplore\)](#)
Member: Pinar Keskinocak
- [What Happens If U.S. Reopens Too Fast? Documents Show Federal Coronavirus Projections \(NPR\)](#)
Member: Pinar Keskinocak
- [Georgia Tech researchers create COVID-19 tool to help doctors spot 'false negative' patients \(Fox 5 Atlanta\)](#)
Member: Pinar Keskinocak
- [Professor Sheldon Jacobson on reducing Covid risks at airports \(Travel Weekly\)](#)
Member: Sheldon Jacobson
- [Controlling The Coronavirus Is Not A Medical Problem \(Forbes\)](#)
Member: Francis de Véricourt

Webinar Alert: On April 29th Dimitris Bertsimas (MIT, Cambridge) will present the ongoing work of his group of 20+ PhD and Master students and colleagues at MIT on a variety of aspects of COVID-19 as part of a new webinar series "Analytics for a Better World Webinars (ABW-W)". Visit <https://bit.ly/3bnEBUG> for more information.

U.S. Federal Policy Update

- This evening, President Trump issued an [executive order](#) "suspending entry of immigrants who present a risk to the U.S. labor market during the economic recovery following the COVID-19 outbreak." The order will temporarily stop the issuance of new immigrant visas for the next 60 days, after which the policy will be reconsidered given U.S. economic and labor market conditions at that time.
- The House of Representatives will vote tomorrow on the Senate-passed interim funding relief package – [H.R. 266](#).

- The Treasury Department and Customs and Border Protection issued their much-anticipated [temporary final rule](#) authorizing the “temporary postponement of the time to deposit certain estimated duties, taxes, and fees” during the coronavirus pandemic. The agencies will be open to receiving comments until May 20th, 2020.
- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) indicated that he still plans to move forward with the Senate returning to session on May 4th, stating that Congress “ought to deal with this the way Congress normally would, with full attendance in the Capitol, doing [their] work.” This was supported by remarks from House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) and House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) later in the evening, who emphasized the importance of Congress returning to session as soon as possible.
- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin stated that he’s hoping the U.S. can reopen its economy by the summer. He said that he’s “looking forward to by the time we get later in the summer, having most of the economy, if not all of the economy, open.”

Global Response

- Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison stated that he had spoken to President Trump by phone on the international response to the pandemic. Prime Minister Morrison stated that the two leaders committed to “working together to improve the transparency and effectiveness of international responses to pandemics,” as they “continue to align our efforts and work toward the recovery on the other side of this virus.”
- The World Bank released a [report](#) estimating that global remittances will decline by approximately 20% in 2020 – the most drastic drop in recent history – largely because of “a fall in the wages and employment of migrant workers.”
- Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez announced his recommendation to the Spanish Parliament that they extend the country’s state of emergency until May 9th, after which the country should pursue a “slow and gradual” reopening.
- British Health Secretary Matt Hancock announced that researchers at the University of Oxford will begin human testing on a potential COVID-19 vaccine tomorrow.
- The United Kingdom held its first “Parliament via Zoom” session today.
- South Korean President Moon Jae-in announced a \$32 billion aid package for businesses that have been affected the most by the coronavirus – including funding for aviation, shipping, and manufacturing.

State Update

- The bipartisan National Governors Association released a new [report](#) – “Roadmap to Recovery: A Public Health Guide for Governors” – outlining a comprehensive strategy for states to consider in reopening.
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced in his news conference this afternoon that he is coordinating with New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont to build a “tracing army” in order to more effectively track, test, and isolate residents infected by the coronavirus.
- California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that the state’s shutdown must continue for the time-being, while also introducing plans for enhanced testing efforts in the state.
- Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman announced that she’s hopeful that the city can reopen its casinos as soon as possible.

Economic Update (as of close of the markets)

- U.S. stocks rebounded today, with all three major indices reporting overall gains. The Dow Jones Industrial Average increased by 2.0%, the S&P 500 by 2.3%, and the Nasdaq Composite by 2.8%.
- Oil futures also finished the day with upward movement, as Brent crude (the global benchmark) rose by 5.4% – to \$20.37 per barrel. The U.S. crude benchmark also jumped – by 19% to \$13.78 per barrel.

Latest Impact Data

- In the United States: Over 843,186 cases and 47,139 deaths in 50 states, 4 territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Worldwide: Over 2,614,040 cases and 182,004 deaths in at least 204 countries and territories.

In the News

- [McConnell says he supports letting states declare bankruptcy amid coronavirus \(The Hill\)](#)
- [‘The map is bigger now’: Coronavirus rewires 2020 election \(Politico\)](#)
- [Mnuchin Says ‘We Need to Spend What It Takes’ to Overcome Crisis \(Wall Street Journal\)](#)
- [Second economic downturn a growing possibility \(Washington Post\)](#)
- [Wall Street Surges as Congress preps more stimulus and oil bounces back \(Reuters\)](#)

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