



Crestline  
SOLUTIONS

## COVID-19: Texas Update

April 17, 2020

### 1. Abbott to address economic reboot in Friday afternoon press conference ...

Governor Abbott will hold a press conference later today to address reopening the economy ... Here's what to [expect](#):

- Announcement of a “task force,” comprised of business leaders from around the state that will advise on how to reopen Texas.
- A nuanced, phased approach ... “each type of business will have a different type of best, safe practices to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.”
- A continued prioritization of public health ... “It will do us no good to open up businesses ... if doing so causes the coronavirus” to spread.

The announcement will be made on the backdrop of:

- Nearly 1,000 new cases, but a significant decline in hospitalizations, in Texas [reported](#) on Thursday.
- New [unemployment claims of over 5.2 million](#) nationwide ... for a total of 22 million in the last month ... that represents 13.5% of the labor force.

## 2. Trump issues guidelines to states for reopening ...

President Trump also issued guidelines on when [to begin relaxing social distancing standards](#) ...

He emphasized that these were merely [guidelines for states and local leaders](#) to use to make data-driven decisions.

The plan represents a [phased approach](#) ... with the initial phase only beginning once hot spots observe a significant decline in new cases over a two-week period and hospital capacity sufficient to treat all patients without “crisis care” ...

The announcement came as the [IHME revised its projections](#) ... New York and some other hot spots are noticing prolonged peaks, while southern states are expected to have less severe outbreaks.

## 3. Other tidbits ...

Excitement exploded yesterday [over Gilead’s remdesivir](#) after a report that the drug was proving effective in patients with severe respiratory illness ... experts caution that data is still preliminary.

[Asymptomatic, or stealthy, spread may be more than previously realized](#) if the USS Roosevelt is any indication, where the entire crew was tested ... approximately 60% of cases were asymptomatic ...

Wuhan [revises death count upwards](#) by roughly 50% ...

That is all today.