



The Barnett Group

The Corona Crisis:

NEWS YOUR COMPANY CAN USE

9 June 2020

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Pandemic Updates.

✓ [Coronavirus Live Updates: W.H.O. Warns That The Outbreak Is Worsening Globally](#)

New daily cases hit a record high on Sunday, NYC is starting to open, Trump will restart large campaign rallies within weeks, meatpacking plants and prisons continue to drive outbreaks in US hot spots, and more. [Click Pandemic Update](#)

✓ [NATURE Magazine: Did Large-Scale Anti-Contagion Policies Work: Yes, and These Must Be Continued](#)

This scientific study concluded that across six countries --- China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, France and the U.S -- **interventions prevented or delayed on the order of 62 million confirmed cases, corresponding to averting roughly 530 million total infections.** These findings are set forth to learn whether or when these policies should be deployed, intensified, or lifted, in the other 180+ countries where COVID-19 has been reported. On MSNBC, June 8, one of the lead researchers, Dr. Solomon Hsiang, said that these policies “were one of the greatest achievements in human history” as so many lives were saved. [Click The Policies Worked](#)

✓ [How One Global Company Handled COVID: Shifting of the Paradigm with Aamer Sheikh, PepsiCo President and General Manager MENA & Pakistan](#)

Emphasizing that there was no playbook to follow for the Coronavirus pandemic, and working within its longtime core value system, Mr. Sheikh says that PepsiCo quickly developed guideposts for this uncharted crisis: Be People Centric; Be Consumer Centric; Be Customer Centric; Be Community Stewards; Be Agile and Be Prudent. No stranger to doing well by doing good, Sheikh’s region saw its food and snacks business jump 13% jump in organic volume, and 11% in its beverages business for Quarter 1. “What the future of COVID-19 holds for us is still unknown,” stated Mr. Sheikh, “ but what is clear is that companies that stay true to their purpose and act quickly, authentically and with integrity, will emerge stronger post this crisis.” [Click PepsiCo](#)

✓ [Washington D.C. Paints Huge “Black Lives Matter” Mural on Street Leading to the White House](#)

City workers and local artists painted the words “Black Lives Matter” in enormous bright yellow letters on the street leading to the White House on Saturday. The mural ends near St. John’s Episcopal Church, where Trump went for a photo opportunity, after officers in riot gear fired tear gas and charged into throngs of peaceful demonstrators to make way for the Trump and his entourage. Demonstrations were held worldwide to honor George Floyd and others murdered by policy brutality. [Click Black Lives Matter D.C.](#)





D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser with long-time civil rights leader, Congressman John Lewis at the Black Lives Matter sign, painted near the White House this past weekend. The Mayor also renamed a street near the intersection “Black Lives Matter Plaza.”

✓ **Why These Protests Seem Different**

People around the world — in Australia, Britain, France, Germany and beyond — have defied cold weather and public health rules against mass gatherings to show solidarity with American protesters, who have now taken to the streets in more than 150 cities. “I’ve been attending protests as far back as I can remember,” said Raeisha Williams, who brought her toddler son along to a protest she helped organize last week in downtown Minneapolis. “And I plan to keep attending them until the system actually changes.” [Click Worldwide Protests](#)

✓ **U.S. Customs and Border Control Continues to Seize Large Number of Counterfeit and Unapproved COVID-19 Products**

Take Note: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) continues to identify and seize a large number of counterfeit, unapproved or otherwise substandard COVID-19 products that threaten the health and safety of American consumers. [Click Customs and Borders](#)

W.H.O Says Your Mask Should Have These Assets to Prevent COVID-19 spread

As is clear from the chart below, these new WHO guidelines provide very specific advice on where and when every population group should wear masks. For example, WHO now advises the general public to wear nonmedical face masks with at least 3 layers of material in public areas where social distancing is not possible—a shift from previous guidance. [Click WHO and Masks](#)

Table 2. Examples of where the general public should be encouraged to use medical and non-medical masks in areas with known or suspected community transmission

| Situations/settings | Population | Purpose of mask use | Type of mask to consider wearing if recommended locally |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Areas with known or suspected widespread transmission and limited or no capacity to implement other containment measures such as physical distancing, contact tracing, appropriate testing, isolation and care for suspected and confirmed cases. | General population in public settings, such as grocery stores, at work, social gatherings, mass gatherings, closed settings, including schools, churches, mosques, etc. | Potential benefit for source control | Non-medical mask |
| Settings with high population density where physical distancing cannot be achieved; surveillance and testing capacity, and isolation and quarantine facilities are limited | People living in cramped conditions, and specific settings such as refugee camps, camp-like settings, slums | Potential benefit for source control | Non-medical mask |
| Settings where a physical distancing cannot be achieved (close contact) | General public on transportation (e.g., on a bus, plane, trains) Specific working conditions which places the employee in close contact or potential close contact with others e.g., social workers, cashiers, servers | Potential benefit for source control | Non-medical mask |
| Settings where physical distancing cannot be achieved and increased risk of infection and/or negative outcomes | Vulnerable populations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People aged ≥60 years • People with underlying comorbidities, such as cardiovascular disease or diabetes mellitus, chronic lung disease, cancer, cerebrovascular disease, immunosuppression | Protection | Medical mask |
| Any setting in the community* | Persons with any symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 | Source control | Medical mask |

*This applies to any transmission scenario

Report on a Program with Dr. Ray Yip, Senior Advisor, Gates Foundation, This program is from a series by The Asia Group, a strategic consulting firm seeking excellence for companies working in Asia, June 5, 2020

There are four major platforms being used for vaccine development

- Use the whole virus and de-activate. This is a 100 year old technology, still used today, for example, for the flu virus.
 - This platform actually gives you the virus, and you recover.
 - With COVID-19, the whole virus could be more harmful because COVID is so potent. One limitation is that it is difficult to grow enough. In the past, scientists have used chicken eggs but this will never be enough and the cost is prohibitive at \$ 5 per piece.
 - All five labs in China are using this form.
- Virus vector: Using original virus, using endo virus, less strong, Insert DNA and grow the COMBINED virus; being used by Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) and Oxford.
 - Advantage: Virus is more predictable
 - Disadvantage: Large volume needed and endo virus could present lesser effective.
- Subunit: Get protein particles and inject for general immunity; combine DNA for virus and produce largely; can harvest protein; like hepatitis B
- Genetic vaccine: Not whole or part of virus. Begin with part of DNA, enters cell, can produce immunity.

- Very sexy. If proven safe, manufacturing production will be much easier than other variations.
- Material used is delicate.

What are the companies participating in the USG Warp Speed?

- Pfizer: Highly skilled in R&D and production of vaccines, now working closely with German company, Biontech. Conducting clinical trials on several vaccines in the US and Europe. CEO has said that a vaccine could be ready before the end of 2020.
- JNJ: Using virus vector; actively preparing for manufacturing; relatively advanced.
- Merck: Surprised with entry, did the Ebola vaccine, and Merck only announced one week ago; on May 26, Merck acquired Austrian company. Merck has a long and diverse history with vaccines.
- University of Oxford: Dr. Yip claims that Oxford, working with Astra-Zeneca, is “most advanced”. By this September, hopes to produce 100 million units; Gates Foundation gave Oxford a pre-order of 750 million for less-developed nations; also signed for one billion dosage for 2021

Importance of preparing both the vaccine and the manufacturing capacity

- A new company, Novavax in Maryland, working on viral vector vaccine, surprised not selected for Warp Speed. DID receive \$ 320 million from international consortium set up with Gates Foundation.

Usually the development of a vaccine is a 10 year project, now in 18 months

- Dr. Frances Collins, Director of the National Institutes of Health, says that the U.S. will have deliverable vaccine by end of this year or the beginning of next year.
- Dr. Yip has never seen saw such funding and support in medicine.

Return to Work and The Future of Work

A series of articles/ opinions on how the return to work may look:

✓ **[How the Coronavirus Has Changed the Future of Work](#)**

It only took a couple of months for the virus to completely change the world. But, if you're patiently waiting for things to return to normal, there is sobering news. Evidence is clear that most countries will never return to a pre-COVID-19 world. How has the future of work been altered? Here's a glimpse from Entrepreneur magazine into what to anticipate going forward. Click [How the Coronavirus Has Changed the Future of Work](#)

✓ **[Return to Work in the Time of COVID-19: June Q&A](#)**

As government authorities look to implement business reopening measures, employers are planning to move employees back into the workplace as state and local stay-at-

home orders expires. Here is a summary of what employers should keep in mind when reopening their physical work locations. Click [Return to Work in the Time of COVID-19](#)

✓ **3 Ways Covid-19 May Permanently Change The Future Of Work**

Perhaps the most discernible impact of Covid-19 will be the percentage of people operating outside of a physical office space. According to research from Gartner, nearly three quarters (74%) of CFOs expect to transition a sizeable number of employees to remote work setups permanently. Mental health and other resources will need to be top-of-mind for employers hoping to empower their workforce for remote work success. And some believe that employers will need to transition to "chat literacy." [Click Three Ways of Change](#)

✓ **Going Back to Work While COVID-19 Is Still Spreading**

Many people in the U.S.—including doctors, nurses, bus drivers, and grocery clerks—have not stopped working through the coronavirus pandemic. But among the millions of others who have been furloughed or teleworking for several months, returning to work raises numerous questions. Here are the first five questions to ask your employer before you head into the office. Click [Going back to work](#)

Report on Program by Singapore Ambassador to the U.S. Ashok Kumar Mirpuri, Politico Live.

- Singapore's first wave of COVID was in January; second wave came in local clusters;
- Our country had had some experience in SARS so we immediately began temperature taking, using protective gear, and so forth;
- The third wave was from people coming into Singapore so we began testing everyone who arrived and then isolated.
- Fourth wave: Significant increase which came from foreign workers in dorms. We separated cases on which were coming from dorms and which were local. We found that we had zero cases in wider population but 300 cases in dorms.
- Public health authorities began testing people in dorms then isolated COVID patients from their communities until two double negative tests. These patients could leave after 21 days or two negative tests.
- Phase 1: Schools open now, teachers are being tested and we have a large human contact tracing program, which was developed with an app. The app is not compulsory but most have downloaded. We also have Safe Entry, if enter building, get fever taken and asked about possible symptoms.
- We are fortunate to have an excellent healthcare system, a multi-ministry task force which briefs the public every day on medical and economic issues.
 - During and since the time of SARS, we made huge investments in epidemic capacity;

- So far, Singapore has had 23 deaths from 33,000 cases.
- Economic impact
 - Announced fourth supplemental budget of year; 20% of GDP into supporting out population; the economy will shrink 4-7% and there is an extended uncertainty
 - We believe that ¾ of our economy will be returning.
 - Quarantine fatigue: Don't want to shut down again
 - We have regional groups working together in ASEAN, for example, to keep supply chains open
- We expect COVID around for many years and so we must restart global, multilateral cooperation

US ASEAN relationship: Unfortunately, not everyone in the U.S. sees how important 600 million people in ASEAN are. Some countries are now domestically focused, US trying to bring supply chains back and has not focused on how to build relationships in post-COVID world.

- In ASEAN, some countries such as Vietnam are doing well, but other countries not as well. Through our regional discussions, we are trying to ensure some momentum.
- Singapore (and ASEAN) are also speaking to the EU, China.
- But COVID must force all people to RE-THINK.

Testing, Treatments, Vaccines and Contact Tracing _

- ✓ [U.S. Astrazeneca is Aiming to Produce 2 billion doses of COVID Vaccine --- Could be Ready by September](#)

AstraZeneca plans to distribute 1 billion doses of a coronavirus vaccine to low and middle-income countries, with 400 million available this year. The U.S. and U.K. are set to be sent 400 million vaccine doses between them, starting in September. The vaccine, named AZD1222, was originally developed by Oxford University in the U.K. [Click Astrazeneca](#)

- ✓ [Op Ed from the Scientific American: Racism Not Genetics Explains Why Black People are Dying of COVID](#)

“Human biology is more than the genome. Our environments, experiences and exposures have profound impacts on how our bodies develop, turning genetic potential



into whole beings... An ethical, scientific response to COVID-19 demands that we honor the highest standards of evidence in evaluating genetic guesswork, while measuring the biological costs of systemic racism and intervening to stop it.” Click [OpEd COVID and Race](#)

✓ **Why do Some Corona Patients Suffer Mild Symptoms, While Others Become Deathly Ill?**

Geneticists have turned up intriguing links between DNA and the disease. Patients with Type A blood, for example, have a 50% likelihood to need oxygen or a ventilator. This article looks at why genes leave some people more vulnerable. Now, a study by European scientists is the first to document a strong statistical link between genetic variations and COVID. Variations at two spots in the human genome are associated with an increased risk of respiratory failure in patients with Covid-19, the researchers found. [Click Genes and COVID](#)

✓ **Urgency Mounts for a Contact Tracing Army**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Robert Redfield warned Thursday that the country needs between 30,000 and 100,000 people to do contact tracing by September to try to stop a major resurgence of the virus in the fall and winter. Other estimates have put the need even higher, with former CDC Director Tom Frieden calling for up to 300,000 contact tracers. [Click Contact Tracers](#)

✓ **Interim COVID-19 Contact Tracing Communications Toolkit for Health Departments**

CDC presents tools for employers to use on Facebook, Twitter and other social media, dealing with employees with COVID as well as their families, wording for public service announcements, and much more. [Click Toolkit](#)

✓ **FLETC to Pilot 90-day COVID-19 Testing**

This press release from the U.S. Federal Law Enforcement Training Center discusses the swab testing they will be piloting for instructors, staff, and incoming recruits. This test is minimally invasive, saliva-based and is designed to be self-administered with only a test swab on the inside of each cheek. Click [90-day Testing](#)



Managing the Illness Around the World

✓ [China To Allow Foreign Airlines Back After U.S. Retaliates](#)

China eased its ban on foreign airlines on June 8, changing course a day after the Trump administration demanded the country reopen to U.S. airlines or face curbs on its own carriers flying passengers to America. [CLICK CHINA](#)

✓ [With No Current Cases, New Zealand Lifts Remaining COVID-19 Restrictions](#)

The latest announcement, which brings the country of 5 million to its lowest alert level, means that large public gatherings, such as concerts and sports events, will be allowed. This marks the first time since March 23, when Ardern announced a nationwide lockdown amid a rising number of daily cases. Restaurants and public transport will also be allowed to resume normal operations. [Click New Zealand](#)

✓ [Cumulative Trends Worldwide](#)

Tracking cases by date, trend, and country over the course of the illness. [Click Cumulative Trends](#)

Time to Relax

✓ [The Art of Streaming: American Express Offers Its Best](#)

From the London Opera to the Metropolitan, Lady Gaga to Britain's National Theater, this is a guide to hundreds of hours of pure joy. [Click The Art of Streaming](#)

✓ [DC Filmfest at Home: Free Movies June 5-11](#)

A very interesting and varied series of free movies that have been past and current favorites. *Filmfest DC at Home* offers the quality of innovative and entertaining films, truly worth scanning on the link. [Click DC Filmfest](#)

✓ [If You Love Culture, You'll Love These](#)

This is an international sweep of things that we cannot visit now. Ranging from the Louvre Abu Dhabi to the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame in Texas, no need for airline tickets... for now. [Click International Culture](#)



✓ Host a Summer Camp for your Family

Important enough to repeat! Tons of ideas from science experiments to creative arts and crafts, screen time to game time, to occupy kids over this long, hot summer.

[Click Camp](#)

Report on Program by Lonnie Bunch, Secretary of the Smithsonian Museums, Founding Director of the African American History Museum; hosted by the American Jewish Committee, 2 June 2020

Question: During this time of pandemic, when the curtain on racial injustice in society is at the forefront, why now?

- Mr. Bunch: Reality is, this racism is nothing new. Rather, it is something we've seen over and over again. Ella Baker said: "Until this country views the deaths of black mother's sons as they do a white mother's sons, we will be a country divided."
- Over time we have seen educational gaps, lack of African Americans graduating from college and graduate schools, the percentage of African American children in K-12 with no access to technology. The U.S. is simply not addressing what has legally and politically needed to happen --- in education, healthcare, jobs.

Question: Looking at you, Barack Obama, isn't it proof that there are no boundaries

- Mr. Bunch: Don't see the exception as the rule. Some things in the US have changed. Since I was a child, I have gone from seeing "Whites Only" signs in restaurants and rest rooms to becoming the Secretary of Smithsonian.
- But in reality, I am only one left turn away from being George Floyd .
- I am very proud of President Obama, he presents hope, but I am more worried about those left behind, locked in, and not believing in fairness of our country.
- Protests are the highest form of patriotism; there will always be those who take advantage of situation for own ends, but what protestors are trying to do is 1) remember George Floyd; and 2) point this nation to the opportunity and the need to change.

Nature of Protest; How does it end?

- Mr. Bunch. In moments of great crises -- the riots of 1919, Harlem in the 1940s, this unveiling of police brutality, what you see is people saying, we need another commission. Nothing happened.
- These demonstrations are not like the 1960s; Martin Luther King realized that the key to protest will lead to obtain legislation, to be an example to the world.
 - But the U.S. has no political leadership now; things must change.