



Crestline
SOLUTIONS

COVID-19: Texas Update

April 23, 2020

1. Texas set to reopen more business ...

In a series of interviews yesterday, Governor Abbott said that [announcements to reopen more business](#) could come as soon as tomorrow (Friday) or Monday.

Two specific business types mentioned were restaurants – presumably under new safety protocols – and hair salons.

He continues to [reiterate that he is relying on medical professionals](#) on his advisory council and that he will only go so far as the data signals. Abbott cited Texas' low death and hospitalization rates.

Here are recent trends in Texas for new cases and fatalities as of yesterday:



2. Congress set to pass a new stimulus package for small businesses ... focus shifts to state and local budgets ...

The U.S. House of Representatives is anticipated to take up a [new stimulus package focused on small business](#). The measure was passed by the Senate on Tuesday ... President Trump has said he would sign the new stimulus package.

[Here's](#) what's likely to be included in the roughly \$484 billion package:

- Roughly \$300 billion to replenish the oversubscribed Paycheck Protection Program ...
- An additional \$75 billion in hospital relief ...
- \$11 billion for states and local governments to establish a testing program.

Amid talks about [growing budgetary concerns with state and local governments](#) ... Senate Majority Leader McConnell has signaled relief may not be coming any time soon for those governments ...

But the Trump Administration may be indicating the opposite ... in discussions with NY Governor Cuomo the [Administration gestured towards waiving the cost-share](#) that is generally required for FEMA reimbursement during disasters ...

Regardless, expect a “bail-out” of state and local governments to be a [major point of friction](#) as Congress immediately turns to a next round of stimulus.

In Texas, discussions have already begun about [budget cuts](#) ... The Comptroller is expected to [revise his revenue estimate downward](#) to the tune of billions in the coming months.

3. Other tidbits ...

The [General Land Office provided relief to drillers](#) through several waivers regarding royalty payments owed to the Permanent School Fund (PSF) ... the move will provide short term liquidity help to Texas operators ... it is unlikely to have a substantial impact on the PSF which helps fund Texas schools.

New stories are emerging that the coronavirus may have been [widely circulating](#) inside the United States for weeks longer than anticipated ...

That is all today.