



NCSL COVID-19 WEBINAR SERIES

COVID-19: Guidance for Easing State Restrictions

APRIL 24, 2020



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COVID-19 WEBPAGE

Information on state policies and responses related to continuity of government, education, fiscal, elections, criminal justice and more.

Go to [ncsl.org](https://www.ncsl.org)



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES



- White House Guidelines
- Building the Public Health Infrastructure
- Creating & Executing a Plan to Gradually Reopen the Economy
- Key Considerations Based on Evidence and Comparative Data

April 24 | COVID-19: GUIDANCE FOR EASING STATE RESTRICTIONS



WHITE HOUSE GUIDANCE ON OPENING UP AMERICA AGAIN

William F. Crozer
Special Assistant to the President
Deputy Director
White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs



BUILDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Michael Fraser
Chief Executive Officer
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials



GUIDELINES

OPENING UP AMERICA AGAIN





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[COVID-19's Impact on Pregnancy and Childbirth Policies](#)

[Why We Need Race and Ethnicity Data to Beat COVID-19](#)

[What is Needed for Community Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

What is Needed for Community Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic

April 17, 2020 | 11:30 a.m. | [Michael Fraser](#) | [Jim Blumenstock](#) | [Marcus Plescia](#)

Glimmers of hope for recovery from the COVID-19 response started to shine this month when several thought leaders and policy experts shared recommendations on what is needed to move from the mitigation phase of COVID-19 to community recovery in four different papers and reports ([here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)). Each report outlines the major steps and the public health capacities needed to effectively control and prevent COVID-19 transmission

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A Coordinated, National Approach to Scaling Public Health Capacity for Contact Tracing and Disease Investigation



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A National Plan to Enable Comprehensive COVID-19 Case Finding and Contact Tracing in the US



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

Center for Health Security

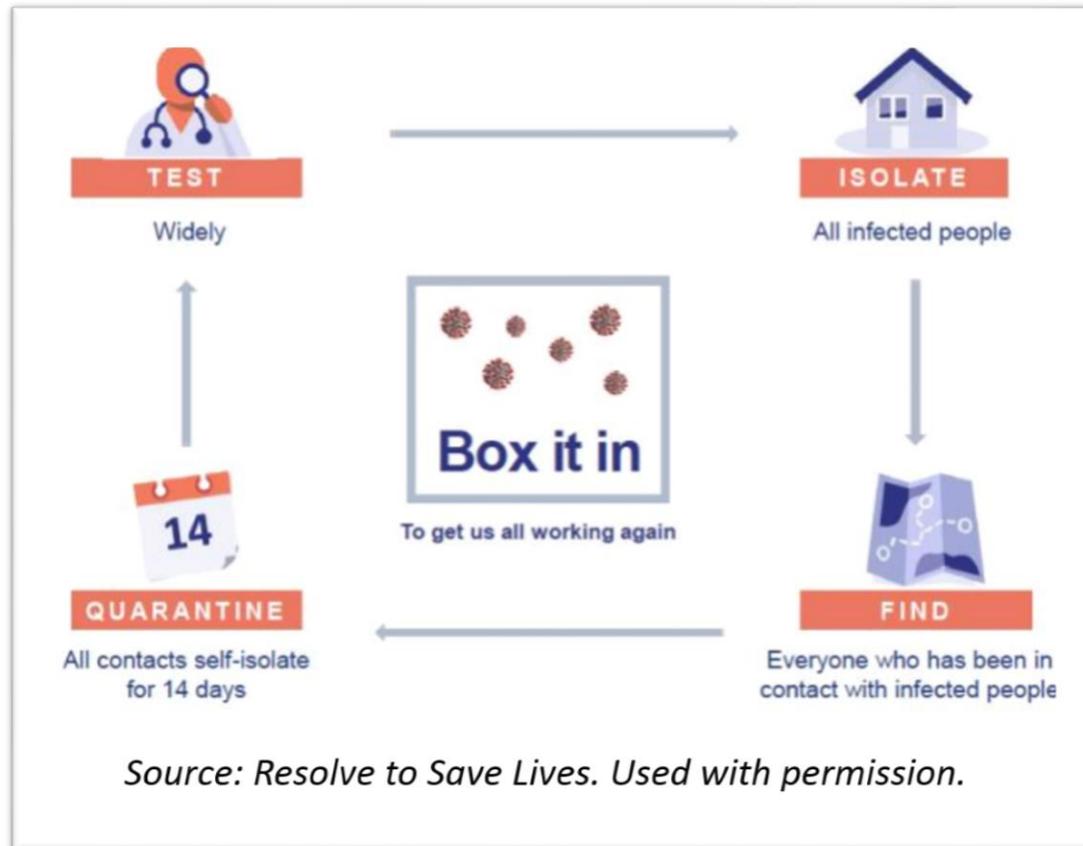


Roadmap to Recovery: A Public Health Guide for Governors

April 21, 2020



“Boxing in” COVID-19



- Easing social distancing measures will depend on a variety of existing and new containment and mitigation efforts.
- Significant preparation will be required by state and national leaders to scale up the required public health workforce to limit outbreaks.

Building Public Health Infrastructure



- To manage COVID-19 going forward, communities need a strong public health infrastructure, including:
 - Ready access to rapid diagnostic tests,
 - The capacity to quickly contain future outbreaks and associated health care surges, and
 - The ability to trace all contacts of reported cases
- Each state and territory will implement efforts specific to their populations and existing public health infrastructure.
- Local and state responses may be informed by approaches in other countries, states or cities. (e.g., [Massachusetts' Community Tracing Collaborative](#))

A Tiered Approach to Scale Up Contact Tracing

- Each local or state public health agency will develop teams based on their geography, existing assets and expertise, and the needs of their community. A contact investigation workforce may include:
 1. A lay or para-professional contact tracer position
 2. A professional Disease Investigator Specialist (DIS) position
 3. A healthcare provider or other clinical, epidemiologist, or other specialist positions to support tiers 1 and 2
- States may consider:
 - Hiring trained individuals within affected communities who may have been furloughed or laid off, or
 - Partnering with local colleges, universities or community organizations.



Source: CDC, [Contact Tracing](#).

State, Territorial, Tribal and Local Coordination



- These steps require full participation of the federal government, state health and other agencies, local governments, the private sector and the public.
- The goal of dramatically expanding the public health workforce, while challenging, is achievable with appropriate financial support and a collective commitment.



MIDDLETON
Ford

FIX IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME

CREATING AND EXECUTING A PLAN TO GRADUALLY REOPEN THE ECONOMY

Hemi Tewarson
Health Division Director
National Governors Association Center for Best Practices



10 Key Steps:

Building the Public Health Infrastructure

1. Expand testing capacity and make testing broadly available
2. Strengthen public health surveillance to understand the spread of the disease and rapidly detect outbreaks
3. Dramatically scale capacity for isolation, contact tracing, and quarantine
4. Ensure the healthcare system can respond to potential surges
5. Protect essential workers and at-risk populations

Creating and Executing a Plan to Gradually Reopen the Economy

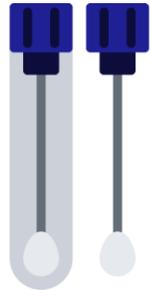
6. Develop a strong and clear communication and public engagement plan
7. Create a framework for reopening
8. Set the criteria and define the stages for reopening
9. Build partnerships between public and private sectors to implement the plan
10. Prepare to reassess and improve the plan frequently

Roadmap to Recovery:

A Public Health Guide
for Governors

April 21, 2020

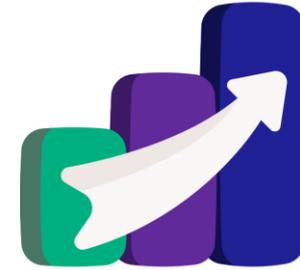
Building the Public Health Infrastructure



Expand testing capacity and make testing broadly available



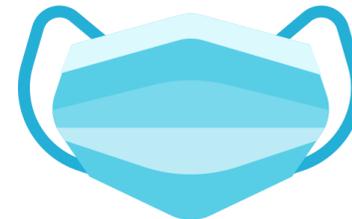
Strengthen public health surveillance to understand the spread of the disease and rapidly detect outbreaks



Dramatically scale capacity for isolation, contact tracing, and quarantine



Ensure the healthcare system can respond to potential surges



Protect essential workers and at-risk populations

Develop a Strong, Clear Communication and Public Engagement Plan

Considerations for governors:



Regularly hold press conferences to explain the status of the pandemic and key steps being taken to protect the public.



Create the opportunity for extensive public engagement about plans for reopening the economy.



Collaborate with other trusted individuals, including physicians, nurses, business leaders, public health experts, community leaders, non-profit organizations, faith leaders as well as persons from communities who have recovered from COVID-19 infection.

Create a Framework for Reopening

Considerations for governors:

- Create a process for ongoing public input and engagement, including the potential designation of a broad-based task force or advisory committee. Regionalizing approaches to recovery by collaborating with neighboring states.
- Communicate clearly about the framework and what it means for individuals, businesses, and communities.
- Develop a public facing dashboard of key metrics to inform the implementation of the framework.
- Leverage the established framework as a foundation for a longer-term economic recovery plan and beginning to identify future goals.

Set the Criteria and Define the Stages for Reopening

Considerations for governors:



Identify key public health and preparedness capability metrics for initiating the process of reopening.



Develop clear public health criteria for when social distancing criteria may be loosened or tightened.



Prioritize public and private activities for different stages of reopening.



Set a length of time to ensure that there is no surge in cases before proceeding to the next level of social distancing.

Build Partnerships Between Public and Private Sectors to Implement the Plan

Considerations for governors:

Develop and promoting tools to help public and private organizations reduce their risks of COVID-19 transmission and respond to early signs of outbreaks. Setting standards for reporting on the progress of reopening, such as COVID-19 infections and employee absenteeism.

Reopen key public functions, such as the court system and motor vehicle administration.

Assign liaisons to key business groups such as Business Roundtables, Chambers of Commerce, or other key organizations and establishing clear feedback loops to support reopening and ongoing assessment of the reopening process.

Prepare to Reassess and Improve the Plan Frequently

Considerations for governors:



Emphasize the dynamic nature of the process and the need for recalibration.



Run through table-top exercises with state agencies to continuously update and test the plan.

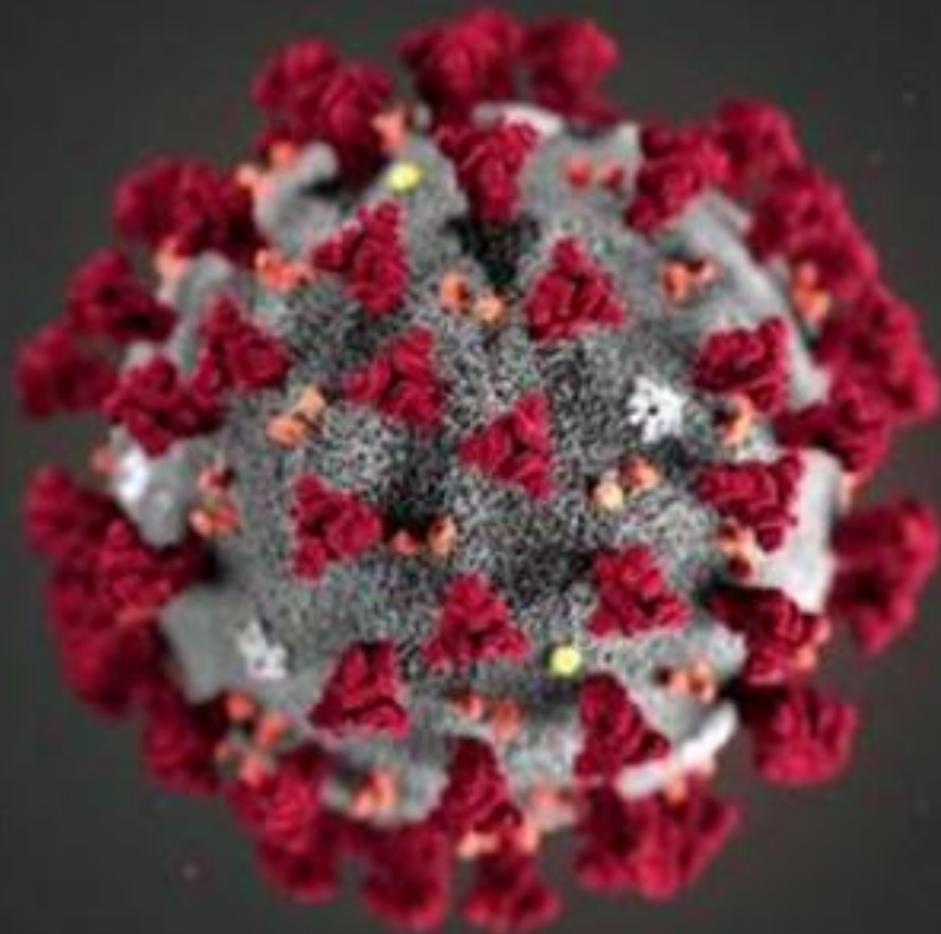


Continue to engage stakeholders (such as a taskforce or advisory committee) to inform and reassess the plan on a periodic basis and identify needed changes to the plan.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS BASED ON EVIDENCE AND COMPARATIVE DATA

Nirav R. Shah
Senior Scholar, Clinical Excellence Research Center
Stanford University





New Tools for New Times

APRIL 24, 2020

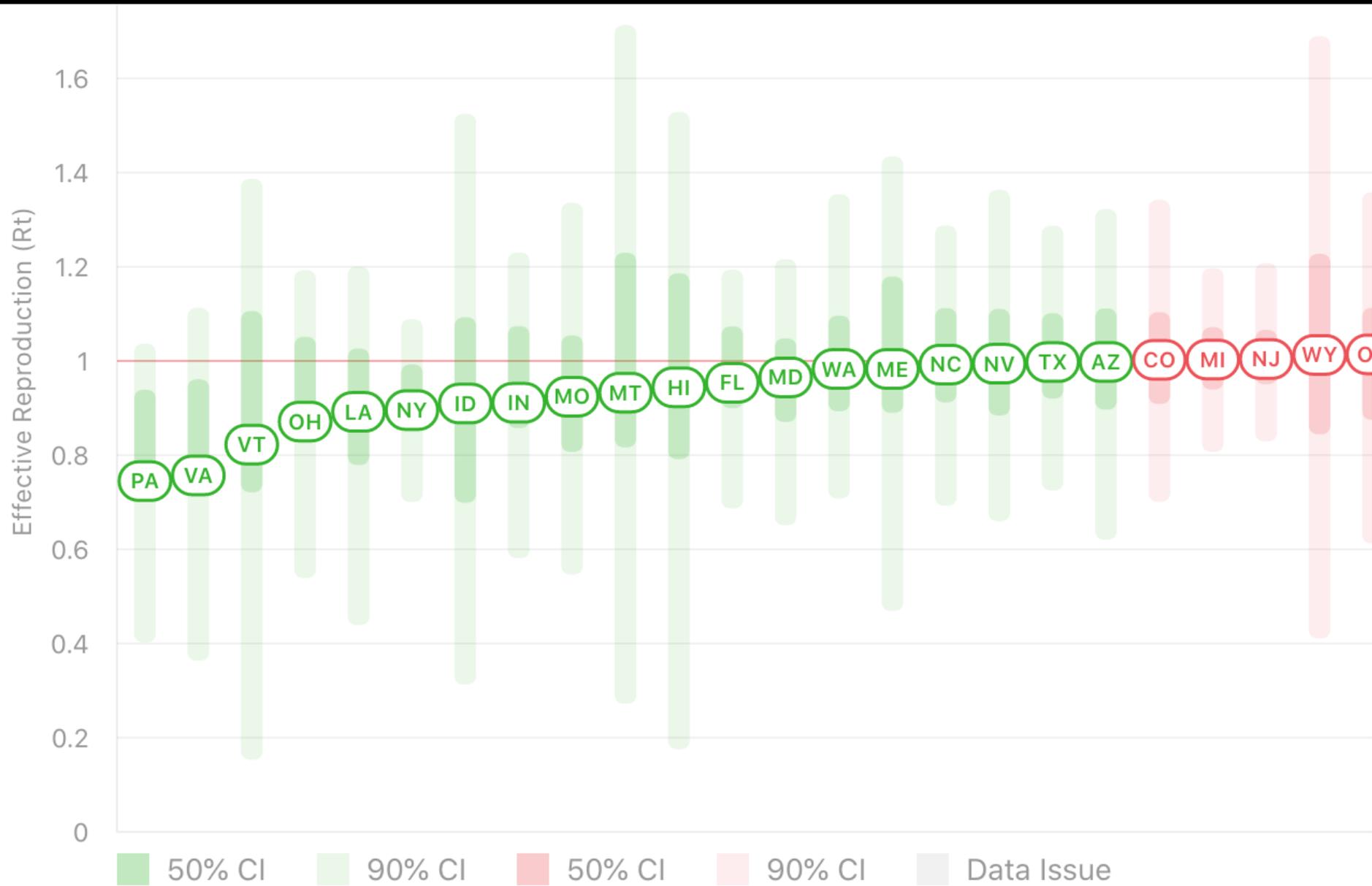


Nirav R. Shah, MD, MPH
Senior Scholar, Stanford University

Why use models?

- Simplify something that's complex
- Synthesize data from multiple sources
- Reveal but not resolve uncertainties
- “What if” calculators – force one to be systematic about knowledge & uncertainty
- Monitor behaviors in response to policies

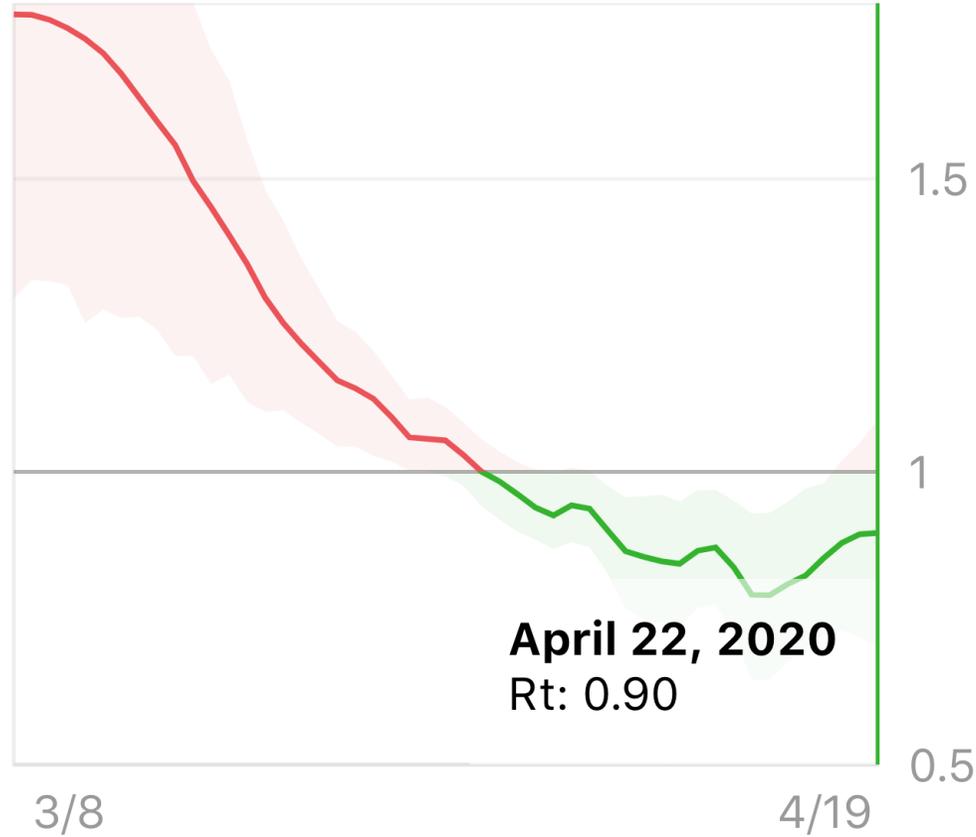
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New York

[show new cases](#)

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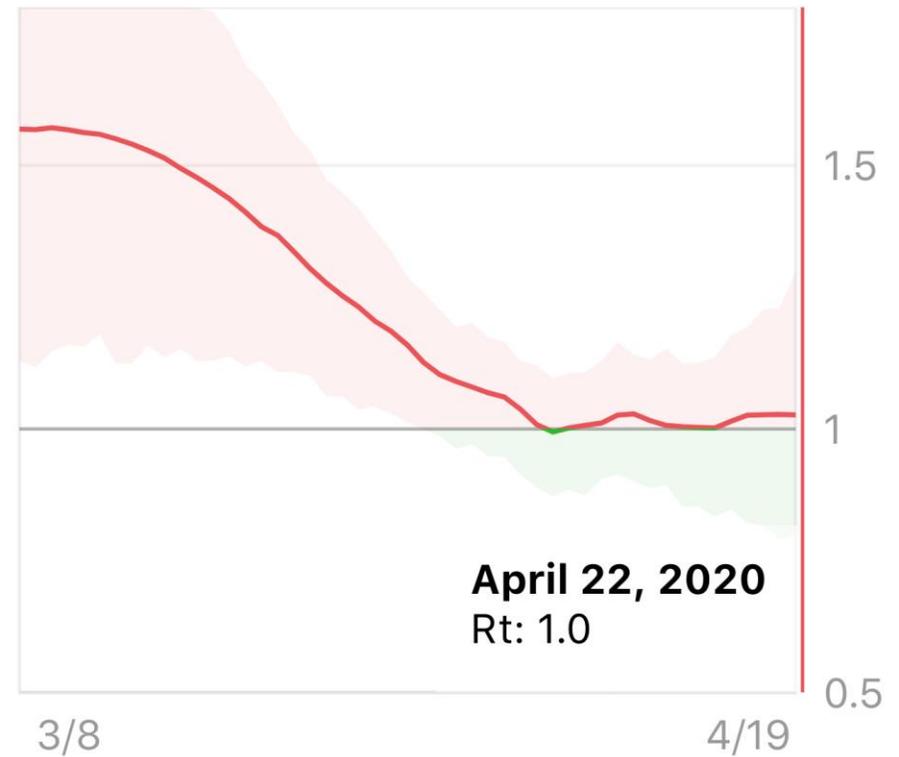


Rt.live

Georgia

[show new cases](#)

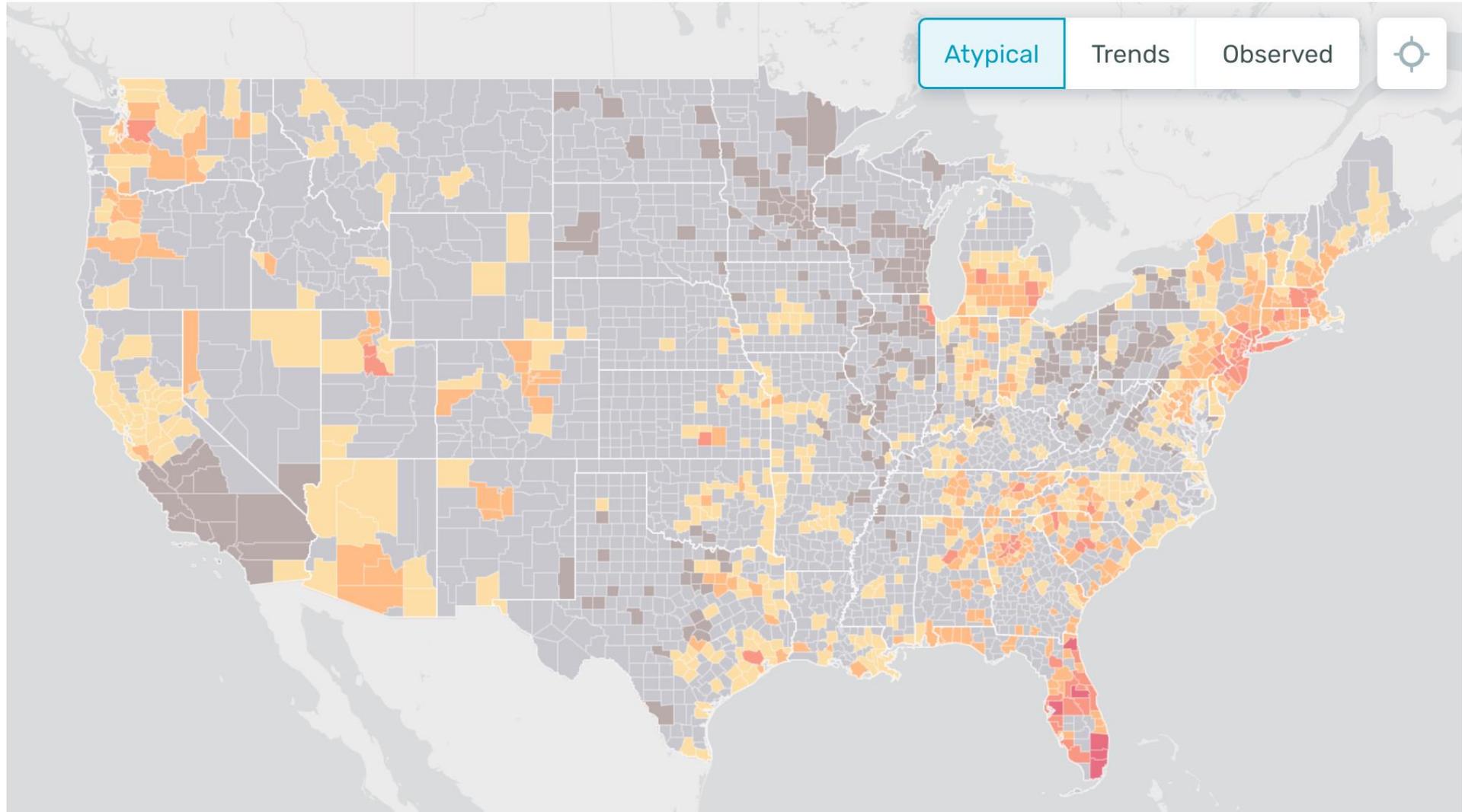
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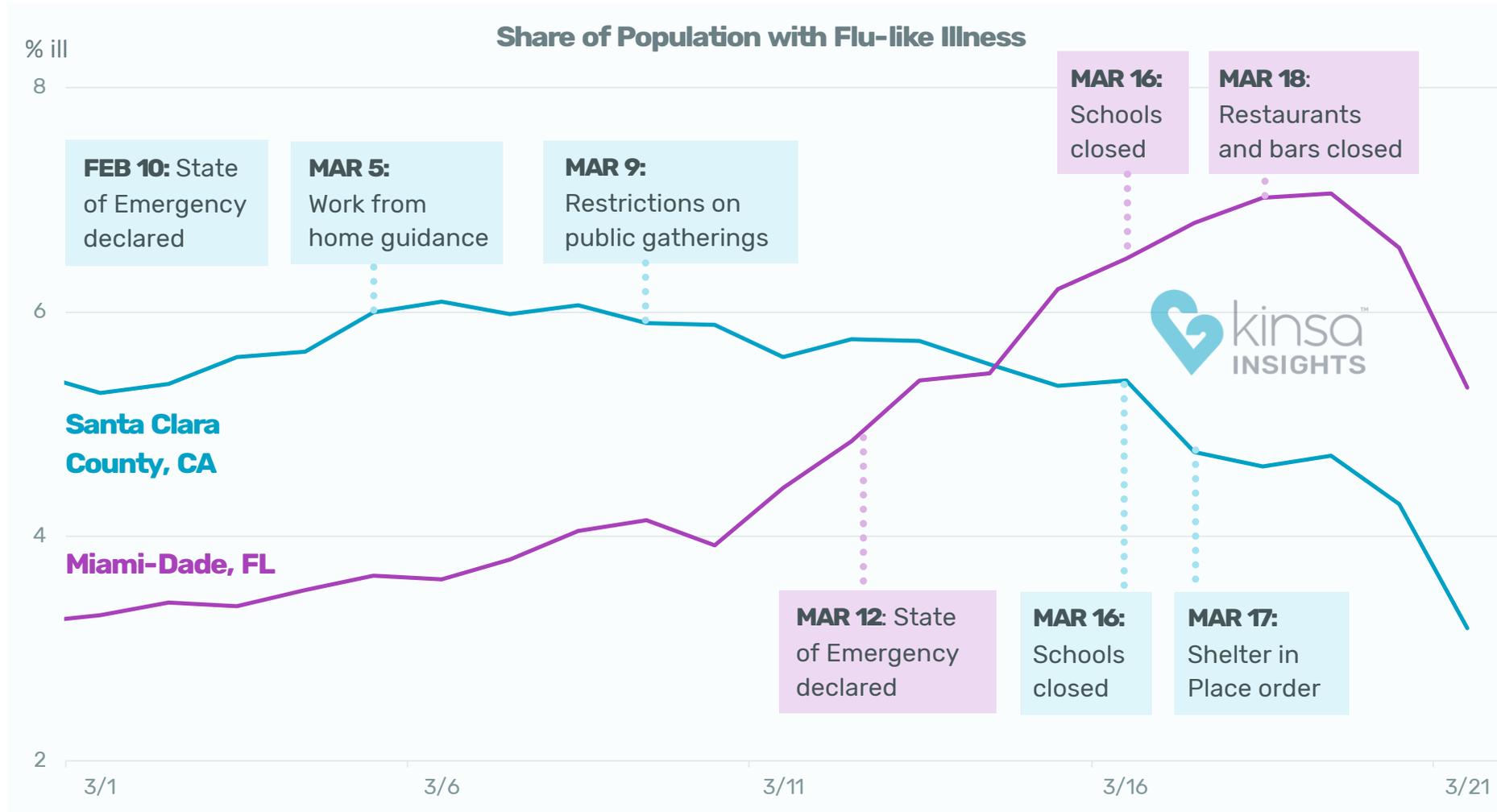


US Health Weather Map

Powered by  kinsa™
INSIGHTS

healthweather.us





Compare your community's **social distancing activity** to its activity prior to COVID-19

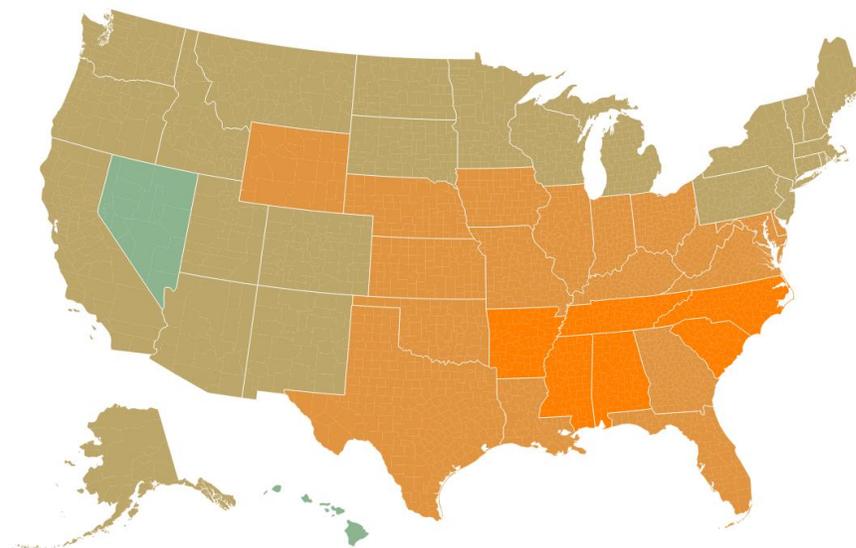
For more details on data accuracy please refer to our [methodology section](#).
 Explore this report in [Tableau](#)
 unacast-covid-scoreboard@1.1.0-616d24e

unacast.

838,067 confirmed cases	C-	↘
25 - 40% Reduction in Average Mobility (Based on Distance Traveled)	D	→
60 - 65% Reduction in Non-Essential Visits	C	→
74 - 82% Decrease in Encounters Density Compared to National Baseline	C	↘

States Counties

Nevada	B	↘
Hawaii	B-	→
Alaska	C+	↘
New Mexico	C+	→
Vermont	C+	↘
Oregon	C+	↘
Colorado	C+	↘
Arizona	C+	→

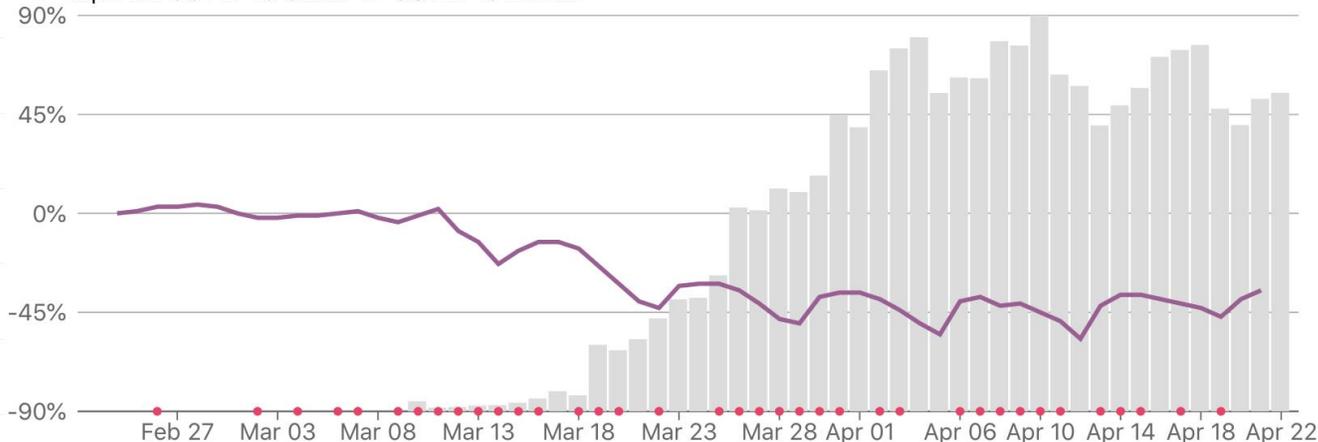


Share This View



Change in Average Mobility (Based on Distance Traveled)
 Change in Non-Essential Visits
 Difference in Encounter Density

Reported COVID-19 Cases
 COVID-19 Events

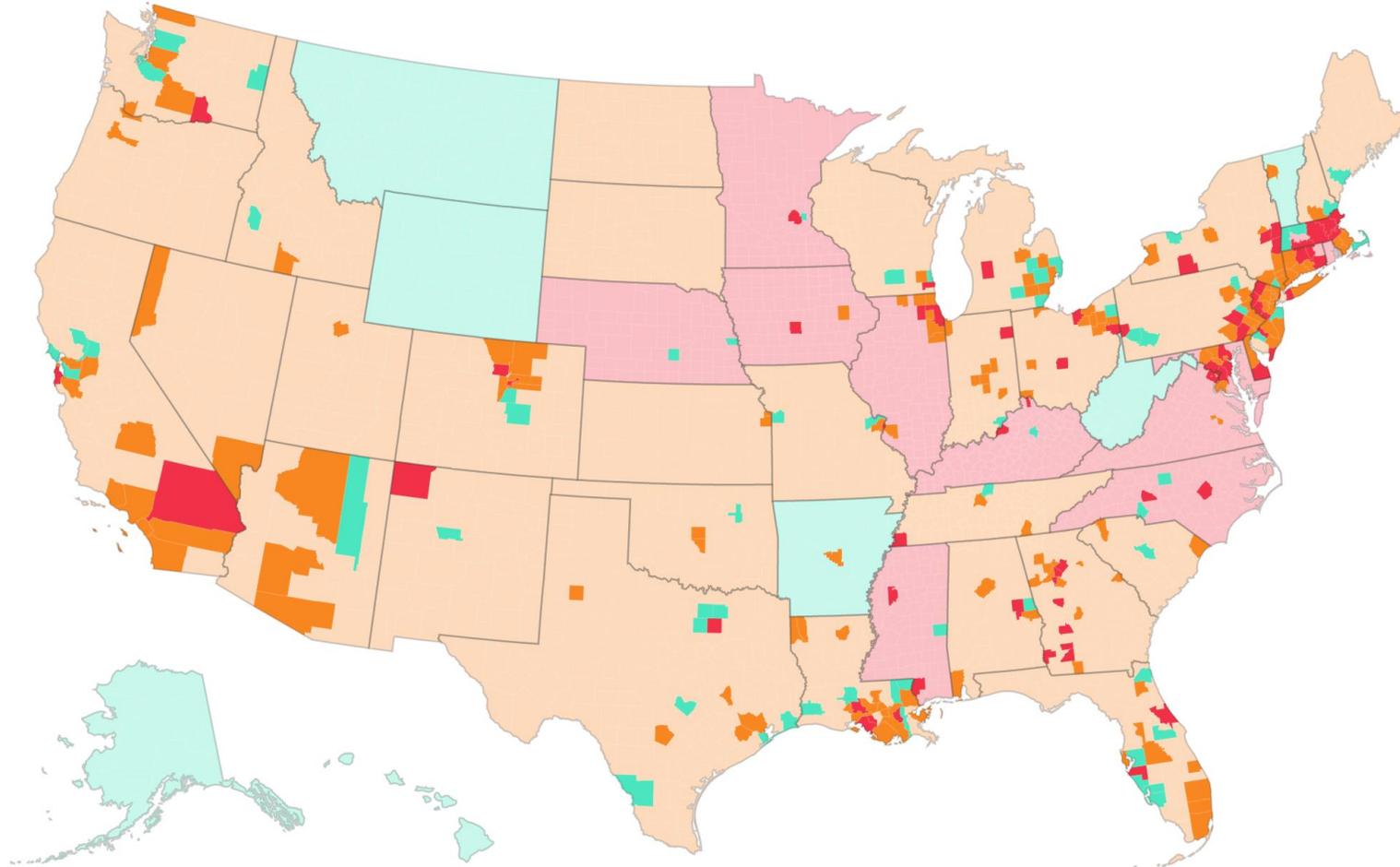


CovidActNow.org

● Cases are increasing

● Cases are stable

● Cases are decreasing



Some Model Priorities

1. R_t (effective reproduction rate of the virus)
2. Hospital / health system capacity
3. Effectiveness of interventions
4. Testing capacity
5. Ability to contact trace

How should you evaluate a model?

1. **Reflects reality at a high level.** Are the numbers order of magnitude correct? Moving in the right direction? Matching other countries that are ahead of us in the pandemic?
2. **Robust.** Does the model rely on singular, risky assumptions? What decisions does this lead us to? What would happen to our decision if this model were 10%, 50%, or 90% off?
3. **Transparent.** Can you review it? Is how it works easily explained/understood? Can you connect with the team and ask questions?
4. **Clear about unknowns and limitations.** Do the modelers openly admit what they don't know? Do they clearly articulate what the model is and isn't good for? Are they open about the fact that it will change?
5. **Vetted.** Have outside experts reviewed and endorsed?

Thank you!

 [@niravrshah](https://twitter.com/niravrshah)



Questions and Answers

Please type your questions into the chat box in the lower left-hand corner of your screen.

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COVID-19 WEBPAGE

Go to:

www.ncsl.org or

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/health/ncsl-coronavirus-covid-19-resources.aspx>



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